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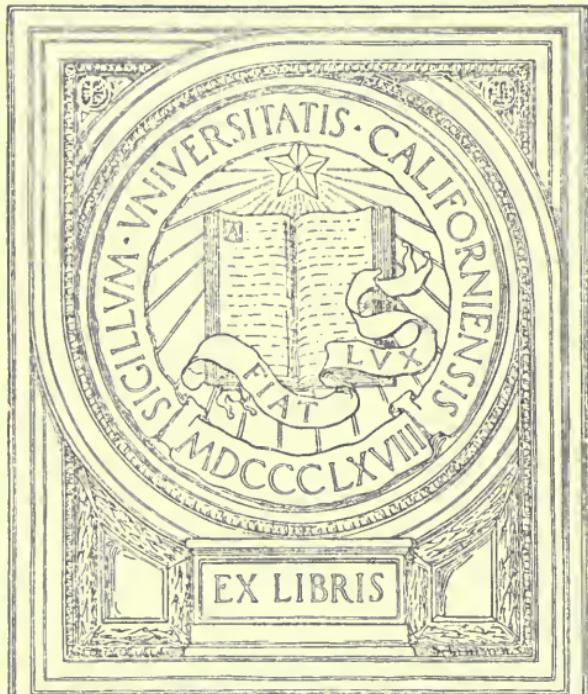
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L. H. Gedlock, Jr.
SKETCHES

OF
THE HISTORY
OF
DARTMOUTH COLLEGE

AND

MOORS' CHARITY SCHOOL,

WITH A PARTICULAR ACCOUNT OF

SOME LATE REMARKABLE PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

BOARD OF TRUSTEES;

FROM THE YEAR 1779

TO THE YEAR 1815.

*With a Memoir of
the Author, and
an Appendix.*

AMAGOMIJO NO YUNI
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INTRODUCTION.

IN a cursory view of the rise and progress of Dartmouth College we survey with delight the benefits resulting from it, in former times, to the best interests of mankind. But the mind is filled with regret at the aspect of events within a short period—a spirit of innovation—attempts from an occult origin, ripening into forcible efforts, to change the first principles, and design of the institution.

It was the intention of the writer, who is personally acquainted with the facts, at his entrance on the present work, to have only pointed out, in a more private manner, certain errors and defects, hoping that the authors of this destructive undertaking would desist from their purposes, and correct their own abuses. In the progress of committing his remarks to writing, new acts of aggression and violation appeared—he found the evils multiplying, and disorder sanctioned by laws spreading through the departments of the Seminary. These reasons led the writer to enlarge the work to its present size ; and now to submit it to the public view. There might have been some improvement in its general arrangement : but facts are presented in a clearer view, as traced, under distinct heads, in the natural order of their succession in the different branches of management, than if they had been confounded, and presented in one chronological chain.

They are entitled Sketches, but the Notes, collectively, present the most important and interesting events of that seminary, between the limits of the periods assigned.

For the facts contained in the following work, we are indebted to President Wheelock ; and their substance may be relied on as true.—Of the justness and importance of the reflections and inferences, deduced from them, it is submitted for the impartial public to judge and determine.

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1. THEOLOGICAL ESTABLISHMENT.

THE Hon. John Phillips, one of the earliest, and the greatest benefactor to the Institution, in the year 1789, made donations, of lands to the Trustees to be sequestered as a foundation for the support of a Professor of Theology. The fund being expressly restricted to that office by the donor, no doubt could arise but it embraced public systematical lectures, classical and individual instruction. That it could not be justly extended to the discharge of duties in any other department, not even that of preaching, in the common acceptation of the word, will be made abundantly to appear from what was understood of the will of the donor; from the votes and practice of the Board of Trustees for many years immediately succeeding the deposit in their trust; and from the common sense of mankind, concerning the nature of the case.—The mind of the donor, and the sense and practice of the Board are brought into open view by the following resolutions and statement of facts.

*At a Meeting of the Board of Trustees of Dartmouth College,
May 7th, 1789.*

“President Wheelock having informed this Board, that he hath
“received of the Hon. John Phillips, L.L. D. £37 10 0, to be
“applied to the use and benefit of this College, provided this
“Board will sequester, as a foundation for support of a Professor
“of Divinity, at this College, those lands, which have been given
“by him to this Board, for the benefit of said College, since the
“year 1780, also 400 acres in Warren, and so much other lands in
“their hands, as may amount in value to the sum of £37 10 0.—
“Whereupon voted, to sequester, as a foundation for the support
“of a Professor of Divinity, at this College, forever, all the lands

“conveyed by said Dr. Phillips by his deed of October 10th, 1781, “and also, 100 acres in Sandwich, being of the value of £37 10 0, “also 400 acres in Warren.”—Attached to this was a vote of thanks to the munificent benefactor; and, then, immediately the said Board proceeded to the resolution which follows:

“Voted, that, for the future, the tuition bills of the students be applied solely for the purpose of paying, annually, the salaries of the Instructors of this College; the annual allowance for preaching; and the allowance to the Treasurer for accounting and collecting said bills, till such salaries and allowances be discharged,” &c.

The conclusions seem obviously to result from the above; that it was the will of Doctor Phillips, communicated by the President, in the case, as it appears to have been impressed on the mind of the Board, that the fund, on the conditions of acceptance, could not in future be applied to the support of any official instruction then existing; no, nor to what they justly expressed as detached, the employment of *preaching*. That such was the idea of the Board of Trustees of the designation of the Donor, and as such accordingly adopted by them, as a principle of practice, appears also, by their vote at their next meeting, in August 26th, 1790.

“On a question respecting the application of the rents arising from lands appropriated to the use of a Professor of Divinity, till such time as such Professor of Divinity be established at this College:—Voted that Jonathan Freeman, Esq. the Financier, be requested to confer with Doctor Phillips on the subject and govern himself according to his advice, provided that can be obtained; this board, at the same time engaging, that, provided Doctor Phillips advise to a temporary application of such rents for other purposes, for the use of the College, and that they be so applied, this board will refund the amount of such rent so applied, and the interest arising thereon, for the use of a Professor of Divinity, when one shall be appointed.” At the same meeting we find their resolutions, as follows;

“Voted that Professor Smith be requested to preach at the Chapel, the ensuing year and that he be allowed the same sum in compensation as heretofore.”—“Voted, that James Wheelock Esq. be requested to apply to the people in this place, to advance to Professor Smith what is equitable, on their part, on account of his preaching to the people and students.”

In the same manner, as before, the Rev. John Smith, Professor of the Languages, was requested, annually, by the Board and paid by them the sum, generally, of £26 0 0 distinct from his salary as Professor, for discharging the office of a preacher to the students connected with the people in the chapel, till the year 1795; and, afterwards, by their order, in the meeting-house, till 1802, to the students, in the same connection with the people:—and, in like manner, during the whole time, the Board requested,

and insisted in different shapes, that the people should pay their proportion of the expence of preaching. In that period the Treasurer, by their order, continued to pay to him for this service the annual sum voted out of the *tuition* bills.

For the first time, then in 1801, ordered, that Professor Smith should be paid, for the discharge of that duty, by the Financier *out of the funds appropriated for a Professor of Theology*;—yet, in the following year, it was so far reversed, that the allowance for preaching was paid, as it always before had been, out of the tuition bill at the treasury—At this time, August 1802, it was resolved, according as was understood to have been his will, *that the lands given by Dr. Phillips, and their rents, and interest of the same annually arising from the respective periods of their receipts, should all be consolidated into the capital fund for the Professorship of Theology*.

We leave the past, and now enter upon the stage of new conceptions and new measures, gradually ripening for the disposal of that fund.

At an annual meeting of the Board of Trustees of Dartmouth College, August 26, 1803.

“ Voted that it be the duty of the Phillips Professor of Theology to exhibit theological lectures to the students in public once a week; to perform religious worship in the chapel, as shall be directed by the Board when it is inconvenient for the president to attend; to preach on the sabbath, and to instruct the students by classes, as shall be agreed by the executive authority, in theology, moral philosophy, and the belles lettres, or in part of said branches or in other branches of science, as the Trustees may, from time to time, direct.”

The above prescript, became the rule of professorial practice to Mr. Roswell Shirtliff, who was appointed by the Board in August, 1804.

For two years from his entrance into office, the professor delivered not a single lecture on theology.

“ At an annual meeting of the Board of Trustees of Dartmouth College, August 29, 1806.”

“ Resolved that the Phillips Professor of Theology perform divine service in said house [the meeting-house] on the sabbaths and other instituted days of public worship, by himself or such other clergyman, or candidate, as shall not be disapproved by the president or a majority of the executive authority—That the said Professor in addition to the foregoing ser-

“ vice, shall deliver, at least, one Theological lecture, at the College chapel, in each week in term time, extraordinary cases excepted ; and votes heretofore passed, respecting the duties of a professor of divinity be and hereby are repealed.” &c.—“ It was resolved, that the said Professor should receive the same salary [£500 pr. ann.] as the Professors of Languages and Mathematics.”—The following was added as part of the same vote.—“ Nor shall he, by any contract or subscription, receive any emoluments, except from the Trustees of said College.” To this we annex another vote at the same session—“ That as the people in this vicinity esteem it a duty and privilege to contribute, according to their abilities towards a compensation to the Professor of Theology, for his administration to them, they have that privilege ; provided it be not done in a way repugnant to the true intent of the resolution of the Board of Trustees in relation to the manner of his receiving his yearly compensation for his services as professor of Theology.”—The foregoing votes were contained in the reports of their Committees, received and accepted by the Board !!

One resolution more, passed by them at that session, comes next in our way, relevant to the subject in view.—“ Voted, that, for the year to come, the Professor of Divinity be excused from lecturing, publickly, to the students, in the chapel, more than once in three weeks ; that he lecture, privately, on theological subjects, to such of the students, as the Executive shall direct ; and that he preach on the Sabbath, as often as his ability will permit.”

Through this year, till August, 1807, the service performed by the Professor of Theology, pursuant to the above resolution, consisted of, at most, *eight lectures* in theology, to the students, and preaching to the students and people twenty-four weeks and a half, the desk being supplied the remainder of term time, by exchanges or foreign preachers, or candidates.

At a meeting of the Trustees of Dartmouth-College, August, 1807,

“ Voted, That, for the current year, the Professor of Theology be excused from lecturing, publickly, oftener than once in a fortnight.”

We have arrived at an important epoch in the history of measures, interesting to the object before us ; but it behoves us that we retrace, and cast our eyes on some connected circumstances, to collect the light from all to a *focus*.

The fund given by Dr. Phillips consisted of various uncultivated tracts of land, to be leased, presenting different prospects, as to the time and amount of their rents. The most valuable parcels had been disposed of by lease, at early dates, and the neat

rents, with the interest of some accumulations of the former consolidated with the capital, produced an annual income, in August, 1804, of two hundred and sixty-three dollars, and fifty cents. This sum was one among the *items* that filled the general statement of the annual income, as reported by their committee to the Trustees then sitting—and, in the same report, was inserted among the items, which composed the statement of annual expenditures, the sum of five hundred dollars, a proposed allowance to the Professor of Theology just elected. That allowance was voted with a perquisite in the use of some land.

Mr. Freeman was Financier of the College from about the time when the donation was made, and continued in that office till his death. He was entrusted with the whole care of the lands composing this fund. He alone was responsible to attend to the management of them—he, in behalf of the Board, leased them, as their circumstances would admit—he collected and applied the rents to increase the capital—he consulted, and held intercourse with the donor, and knew his mind.

In consequence of the regulations adopted by the Board in said August 1804 preaching on the sabbath was no longer to be remunerated from the *tuition* bills: it was associated with lectures, and with them assigned as a duty, to the Professor of Theology, who derived his pay from the Phillips rents, blended with other incomes.—The Financier called this arrangement in question; and, at their meeting in August 1807, he stated to the Trustees; that, by their own appointment and express desire, he had at an early period consulted fully with the donor, who assured him as agent of the Board, that his aim and view in giving was to make an entire establishment of the professorship—that the lands, being new, would require time to become productive: that he wished them to be leased as soon as could be to advantage, and the rents and their interest accumulate, till the fund should, of itself be sufficient to support the office; that he considered its duties to consist in public and classical lectures to the students, and more private instructions, to prepare their minds for the ministry, should providence open the way: finally, that he did not consider *preaching* as the official business of the professor; and, therefore, did not expect, and *could not consent*, that any part of the fund should be applied to the support of a preacher, any farther than that what of the fund may be used by the Board in this way, shall be replaced with interest.—Mr. Freeman added, that blending the products of this gift with foreign monies, and its object with foreign objects, was contrary to the original design; and that, in any case, the rents could not be alienated nor used except as loans to be refunded with interest. He, then, remarked that there were rents of that donation to a considerable amount applied by them to other uses, particularly to the support of a preacher to the inhabitants of the town and students, in the meeting-house, in the character of a Professor of Theology, which

rents with interest ought sacredly to be *refunded*, and incorporated with, to enlarge the capital according to the views and wishes of Dr. Phillips, from the time of the donation till his death.

No measures being adopted on the above representation of the financier, he gave notice, that the subject should again be brought up, at the adjourned session in January succeeding. On this last occasion, Mr. Freeman presented the same object to the view of the Board—expressed the substance of what he had before stated—he enlarged upon it, and appealed to the apprehension, and practice of the Board in former times—he urged that the late incomes of the Phillips lands, paid by their order for a foreign purpose, for common preaching as pertaining to the Phillip Theological professorship be replaced to the credit of the fund of the donor and carried into the capital; and, that otherwise the fund was perverted.—The oldest members, present, were in opinion with Mr. Freeman.—The Rev. Professor Smith adduced a letter of Dr. Phillips in reply to one written by him, while officiating as the appointed preacher, on the subject; in which reply the donor, with great caution, would not consent that any avails of his donations should be used for preaching, any further than in the way of loan to be refunded to the establishment. The remark, furthermore, ought to be noted, which was made by an eminent and highly respected character, a member, then present—the intimate friend and confidant of Dr. Phillips.*—He observed, “that he was in opinion with the Financier, from the substance of remarks that had fallen in conversations, from the lips of the donor; and that, on his *death bed*, he intimated, that he should have done more for the college, were it not for his fear, that there would be a future perversion.”

The subject being of a peculiar nature, and the Board not then prepared to act, Mr. Freeman, at the close, remarked, that he should bring the same forward, again, at the next session; and should consider himself bound in duty to pursue it, until there was a change in measures. His death, the ensuing summer, put an end to the immediate prosecution of the design.

Those, who could not discern the justice and propriety of assigning such specific duties to that professorial office, and of granting it support in such a channel, thought it prudent, however, from circumstances, to suppress their apprehensions, during the two years succeeding the death of the Rev. Dr. John Smith, which rather lessened the prospect of procuring any change.—He was among the earliest members of the Corporation, well understood the primitive principles of the Institution, and the establishment of the Theological professorship, and the intention of its benefactor.

An impulse of duty, at length, overcame all doubtful calculations of the particular issue; and a letter from the President, Aug. 26, 1811, was addressed to the Board of Trustees, then about

* Gov. Gilman.

sitting. Among other matters, the foregoing was brought into view, in a qualified manner, as the delicacy of its circumstances, and the former sensations, which it had produced in some, seemed to require. The limitation of the fund for the professorship of Theology to the object intended by the Donor, the statements of Mr. Freeman, the Financier and Agent, the former proceedings of the Board, and other evidences, above mentioned, against devoting it, in any part, to the support of a preacher of the gospel, were all noticed and referred to—the importance of their particular inquiry and attention was suggested; that, should there be a possible deviation, it might be rectified.

They adjourned their session to the 22d day of October following—and then took into view the matters contained in the said letter. We will here confine ourselves to the parts of their copious resolution, which express their ideas and determination in relation to the subject now before us.—*The Trustees expressly declare any administration of the ordinances, or attention to parochial concerns, which interfere with the regular discharge of the duties of the Professor of Theology, to be, in their opinion, improper and unjustifiable.* They declare, that “they cannot accede to the “idea contained in the memorial—[i. e. the letter]—that any deviation from the will of the late Doctor Phillips, or any per-“version of the Phillips fund, hath taken place by requiring “Professor Shurtliff to preach in the meeting-house, on Sabbath “and other days of public worship; or by permitting him to ad-“minister gospel ordinances, when such administration does not “interfere with the prescribed duties of his professorship.” (In another clause) “The Trustees consider, that they have made “such provision for religious instruction and the administration “of the ordinances, as circumstances required,” &c. It will enlighten our path to compare these declarations with one another and with their former resolves.

The Professor of Theology had on the preceding winter received ordination, and became the pastor of the new church. From August 1810 to August 1811, in the study term consisting of 39 weeks, he delivered but ten lectures to the students, and preached fifteen sabbaths and a half to the people and students in the meeting-house; the desk being supplied on the other sabbaths by occasional candidates or preachers, or by exchanges with neighbouring ministers. At the close of the year in said August, the Trustees, at their meeting, passed the following vote:—“Whereas the Professor of Divinity has, for the present season “improved certain College lands not appropriated to him—and “whereas, the duties assigned him for the year past have been “greater than usual—Voted that he be allowed the use of those “lands for this season free of claim on the part of the Board.” In the year after, from March to August, 1812, being twenty-five weeks, study term, the Professor preached seven sabbaths and a half to the inhabitants and students in the meeting-house; and, for the remaining seventeen and half sabbaths, he obtained assist-

ance from occasional preachers, or by exchanges. How often he delivered lectures in the chapel, and, preached in the meeting-house, during the first term, 14 weeks, of the year last mentioned, and how often from August, 1807, to August, 1810, there are no minutes to determine. In that year, 1810, his salary was raised by the Board to six hundred dollars; and was afterward increased to seven hundred, with the former perquisites continued.



THE history is now finished of the origin and progress of this Theological establishment. It exhibits a chain of facts, with their bearings, from the first act of the donor, through the proceedings of the donees, connected with other events and circumstances, filling the period of twenty-two years. They lead, in their unequivocal exposition, to the following results.

1. The Hon. Dr. John Phillips, in the year 1789, laid, in the gift of valuable wild lands to the Trustees of this College, a foundation for the support of a professorship of Theology. It was his will, that the products of these lands, so fast as they could be leased or rented, should be annually accumulated in the principal until sufficient, by its income, to support the establishment; and that it should be kept distinct and entire, in its management, and use.—For the truth of this we appeal to the manner, in which his mind was, originally, communicated by the President, the negotiator, to the Trustees; and which appears to have been their understanding, by the foregoing votes of the Board, in May 7, 1789, and in August 26, 1790.—We appeal to this last vote; and to their vote in August, 1802;—we appeal to the report and uniform assurance of the Hon. Jonathan Freeman, who, as appointed by the Board, consulted and conferred with Dr. Phillips, and obtained his wishes—and to the constant practice of said Freeman, who, as agent of the Board, had the management of that fund.

2. The donor never identified the ordinary duties of a preacher of the gospel with the duties of a Professor of Theology, contemplated to receive support from his establishment—never did he consent that any part of the rents of the lands, given by him for this purpose, should be devoted, or used to pay for preaching, any further than, what the Trustees might take and apply to that object, should be considered by them as borrowed, and they sacredly holden to replace the same, with interest, to the credit of his donation. Is it needful here, to recur to the official testimony, and arrangements to this effect, of the financier or agent?—there are those, who well remember his declarations at the time, and after the Board had formed a new channel, and turned into it the stream of the fund. Is it needful to recur to the remem-

hrance of that letter, written by the Donor to Doctor Smith then the incumbent preacher?—There are those, too, now living, who remember such a letter. But rather would we recur to the sense and conception of the Board, indicating to the same purpose by their annual votes, appointing a preacher, from August, 1790, to August, 1802; and ordering his pay from a source wholly distinct from the Phillips fund, even years after it had become productive.

Thus we discern the aim, and wishes, of Dr. Phillips, in laying a foundation for classical knowledge, and learned improvement, in Theology; and we discern the Board of Trustees cautiously conforming, in measures and agency, till the period last mentioned. But it is not less evident, they were now to be governed by other rules in reverse of the former.

1. Never, after, was there any further accumulation of the rents and interest with the principal, though all the just ground and reasons remained for doing it, as the whole would still be inadequate to the support of the professorship, the design originally contemplated. On the contrary, the Trustees, by votes in August 1804, and in August 1806, ordered the incomes of the Phillips fund to be mingled with other resources, to make the amount of the salary, to be paid to the Professor of Theology. And for what?—As a reward for discharging a part only of the real duties of a Professor, blended with foreign services imposed, also, on him in the same character.

2. The Trustees by their said resolutions have constituted preaching to be a part of the office of the Theological Professor—preaching, not as a systematical, didactic, academical exercise, to form students into learned divines, but preaching just in the sense it had been performed before—preaching according to the ordinary meaning of the word—Can there be a doubt of this? have they not required the Professor, as such, to preach to the students and inhabitants of the town in the meeting-house? Have they not allowed him to preach as convenient, and exchange freely with other clergymen? If, by their vote in 1806, there was some qualified restriction, was not this wholly removed by their measures afterwards; and have they not, thus, employed him, as professor of Theology, and taken it upon themselves to pay him, exclusively, for services, which before they had insisted the people ought to pay for? All this appears by their doings, and in the result, by the ordinary service of a minister of the gospel performed, for years, as a duty of the Phillips professor.

3. By their resolutions in 1803 and 1806, it became a permanent part of the duty of the professor of Theology to deliver a lecture, every week, in the chapel. There was, however, an exception, at the time of the latter date, excusing him, for one year, from delivering above one lecture in three weeks; and a vote, in 1807, excused him, for one year, from delivering more than one lecture in a fortnight. But we have seen that only *eight* lectures were delivered in three years, ending at August, 1807, and only

ten lectures in one year, closed in August, 1811; and we are left to judge of the rest. We have seen the delivery of sermons, by the professor, only fifty-three Sabbaths and a half during all the study terms of the former three years; and the delivery of sermons by him only fifteen Sabbaths and a half in the year last mentioned; and seven Sabbaths and a half in the term ending in August, 1812.—It hence, therefore, appears, that by warrant of the Trustees, the duty of the professor of Theology, in preaching one hundred and eighty-one weeks, has been performed by him, seventy-six Sabbaths and a half; and, by neighbouring and foreign ministers and occasional candidates, one hundred and four Sabbaths and a half. Such are the services, and in such a manner performed, to which the Board have applied the incomes of twelve years from the unripened Phillips fund.

The question is not on the propriety of providing for religious administration at the College—It is their duty to see that provision be made, and to support, as their predecessors had always done, a preacher and gospel minister—to do it from other resources of the Institution with the assistance of the people;—but not to turn into this channel the donation of the venerable John Phillips, and devoted by him to *another* purpose.

What conclusion can be drawn from the whole survey, but that the Trustees have left the beaten path of those who went before them. They have ceased to accumulate the fund, according to the view of the donor, for the purpose of a theological establishment—they have nipped its green fruit—they have amalgamated it with foreign products—they have, thus, devoted it to support duties, partly nominal, and partly irrelevant; to pay a preacher, a gospel minister, under the title of Phillips professor—a preacher gratuitously paid by them for the people—a preacher authorized, as he finds, convenient to barter the duty of a professor with any clergyman or candidate.

Even were there never a word, or intimation, from the munificent benefactor; nor ground to conjecture what his will might be, yet, to apply a gift for such an establishment to pay for preaching or administering the gospel in the above *form*, or according to the common meaning of the word, would be a misapplication or perversion of the same. I need only appeal to the common ideas and sense of mankind. Near four thousand dollars, belonging to the fund, laid by Dr. Phillips for a professorship in divinity, have been turned from their proper course into the channel, as has been described—all spent—not a trace left behind. I must not suppress my moral feelings—Justice, and a respect for the will of the deceased benefactor, the prosperity of this Institution, and the good of mankind, require, that the sums drawn from his establishment, and diverted to a foreign use, should be *restored* for their primitive purpose. A sense of propriety and fitness require, that the exotic branches be pruned away from this professorial office, and replaced by others more congenial to its nature.

Some truths, which have not entirely escaped notice, will stand in clearer light in the progress of our next inquiry.

II. *RELIGIOUS ORDINANCES.*

IT will appear, in the course of our examination, how far the matter, under this head, is, in certain points of contact, connected with the preceding: and how far improper means have been made subordinate to an improper end. What may remain to carry to the credit of mistaken desire, to effect a purpose, remote from the public advantage, or of innocent mistake, to which all good men are liable, will be left to the award of sober reason. To understand the case, and arrive at a just conclusion, it is necessary to go back, and trace the chain of events in their order.

In the year 1790, the President made a contract, and erected a chapel to accommodate the members of the Institution in their public exercises, and the people of the vicinity with them on the Sabbaths. They paid their proportion, by purchase of their seats. Four years after the inhabitants, for the purpose of more spacious and convenient accommodations, in the character of proprietors, undertook and completed a meeting-house; the Trustees repaying to the owners their purchases in the chapel. We will follow, with this clue, these guardians of the seminary, in the course of their measures leading from a fair outset to an unexpected eventful issue, saddening the hearts of the wise and good.

"At a meeting of the Board of Trustees of Dartmouth College, at said College, August 25, 1795,"

A committee was chosen to agree with the Proprietors for seats in the meeting-house for the use of the Students, and with the people respecting their aid in supporting the preacher.

The committee and people did not unite in terms of agreement. At an adjourned meeting of the Board in February following, Mr. Woodward was appointed to agree with the proprietors and people, for the use of the meeting-house at the, then, next commencement, for the use of seats for the Students on future public occasions, and to confer in respect to preaching, and report—still, it will immediately appear that nothing could be done to effect.

"At an annual meeting of the Board of Trustees of Dartmouth College, on the Tuesday next preceding the fourth Wednesday in August, A. D. 1796, at said College."

Another committee was chosen to contract with the Proprietors for the use of the meeting-house.

It appears, that, under the sanction of the Board, the meeting-

house had been, on Sabbaths, in times past, and was for the future year, to be occupied by the Students with the people. Dr. Smith, professor of languages, accordingly, there administered the ordinances under sanction, and pay from the same ; the people, also, contributing something, annually, for his services.—But the parties concerned in the business of accommodation, became more remote from terms of agreement—the breach widened.

“ At an annual meeting of the Board of Trustees of Dartmouth College, holden at said College, on the Tuesday next preceding the fourth Wednesday in August, A. D. 1797.”

“ Voted, That Professor Smith be desired to preach, the ensuing year, and that he be allowed therefor the sum of one hundred and twenty dollars ; and that public worship, on the Sabbath, be attended by the officers and students of the College, either at the meeting-house in the vicinity, or the chapel, as the officers may agree, and determine, so that no expense accrue to the Board for seats, excepting for unreasonable damage done by the Students in the apartments, where they may sit.”

The executive officers wished to be firm and faithful in the discharge of their duty—but they well knew the delicacy of the case ; how the feelings of some of the leading proprietors were wrought up—it was therefore their aim to apply the most pacific and conciliatory means to accomplish the end. They still continued with the Students to attend public worship in common, at the meeting-house. The proprietors, chiefly inhabiting the vicinity, insisted in louder tone on their determination to require pay for the seats. The sensibility of the Students at length awoke : some began to absent from the house of worship ; but returned, at once, on advice. The officers of the College, in the mean time, were not unmindful to seek proper occasions to converse with individuals of the claimants ; and urged against the demand, that they and the members had left the chapel, where the seats were free, to accommodate the people in connexion ; and that the Board paid the principal expense of supporting the pastor. They, also, conferred with the proprietors, at their meeting on the 12th of October, when they passed the resolve ; “ that the proprietors have nothing to do with the votes of the Board of Trustees of Dartmouth College, further than to hear them.” Other attempts were, still made, but all in vain. Despairing of success, and bound to conform to the order of the Board, there remained no alternative, but for the officers and students, early in November, to remove to the chapel.

It behoves us that we attend to this event, and mark the crisis. It was important ; then was sowed, and guarded by evil hands, the seed, which late sprang up, and was fostered by those, who ought to have been concerned in its extirpation, and like the *upas*, extended its deleterious branches.—In the latter part of

December the proprietors opened the way, and the officers and students again took their seats in the meeting-house. The Rev. Professor Smith whose removal was involved in the same order received, also, a friendly communication from the inhabitants that he would perform his ministerial labours in that house, as before. He complied—but, a few individuals, insensible of the sacred ties, that bound him in the late exchange, proved by letters and seven years practice, that they could neither forget, nor forgive.

The promising appearance of general coalescence was wavering: it was protracted by a partial adjustment between the Trustees and proprietors, in August 1798; and in the ensuing August, was made by their agreement, more durable. In this state Professor Smith continued as before, the preacher and pastor till August 1804, the Board, the officers, the students, the church, and the people, uniting in general harmony.—To form a just idea of the events now ushering in, it is needful to revert to the original religious principle established in the seminary, and the order issuing from it, and maintained with marked distinction to this period.

No spiritual servitude, no incroachment on the rights of conscience, no compulsive creeds of belief.—All these were proscribed forever.—The institution was founded in faith. The doctrines proclaimed were the doctrines of the reformed churches of Geneva, of Switzerland, of Holland, and of Scotland—its motto, *peace and good will to all men*. So soon as it existed, so soon as an altar could be erected in the year 1771, to offer the vows of homage and praise to God—Hear the words of the Founder in the continuation of his narrative. “*The twenty third day of January was kept as a day of solemn fasting and prayer; on which I gathered a church in this College and school, which consisted of twenty-seven members, and three since added.*” Besides the students, some of this number inhabited a neighbourhood about three miles distant, and their descendants with an accession of others have always, since, continued as members of the same, and many added in the vicinity of College. From the beginning the preacher to the students and people was the pastor of this church, constantly, and in uninterrupted succession—the founder, Mr. Ripley, Messrs. Ripley and Smith, colleagues, and Mr. Smith, in a line to the last date. The Trustees knew it—yes while they, annually, after the decease of the founder in 1779, appointed the preacher to the students with the people, they well knew, that he was the pastor of the church,—when they paid him for preaching, they knew that it was for services part of, and blended with all the duties of a pastor of this very church, organized at its birth and continued on the Presbyterian plan of government—they knew, that they ought to provide for the support of the other administrations, as well as of mere preaching.—Such were the views, such the practice of the Board, and general harmony in the church and order in religious relations till August 1804.

Dr. Smith had repeatedly expressed to the Trustees his desire to be relieved from the service of preacher at the College, so soon as another could be provided—His duties, as Professor of the Languages, demanded his attention, and his health was impaired. It was concluded that his desire might be gratified by the person, who should be elected Professor of Theology, an object, which the Trustees had contemplated and proposed to consider in their session at this time. Different persons were brought into view to fill that office, but they lived too remote to be conferred with for the Board then to act. They had been disappointed before: and the problem whether those now proposed would accept was unpromising.—Finally, Mr. Shurtliff, who had been tutor, was a candidate preacher, and then in the place, was proposed. There were doubts on the subject—an individual or individuals conversed with him—it was said, that probably he would accept, if appointed. The Board had been some time in session—the time was crowding. At length it was proposed, that Professor Smith and the President should have some conversation with him. During the interview Mr. Shurtliff remarked that he had no objection to the church, nor to the Presbyterian form of government—The President then plainly told him that his election depended on his disposition, and the assurances which he might give of his attachment to the church, and its form of government, and his *engagement* to walk with them, and in friendship with Dr. Smith, until he should cease to be a pastor.—The President then wished again for a direct and categorical answer without any condition—He said it *would be* agreeable, and that he should if appointed, unite with the church and act as they might be inclined—Said the President repeating it, *may we depend on you*—He assented with a motion of his head in the words *there shall be no difficulty*.—The President then replied, that he would have his vote, and that of others, and, no doubt, would be elected.—A number of the members of the Board knew Mr. Smith's and the President's object in this interview with Mr. Shurtliff—and they concluded that they were fully satisfied. Thus he was elected; and, on other ground would have been inevitably rejected.

But three months after, when those individuals, before referred to, who had expressed their indignant feelings at the executive officers, and particularly Dr. Smith, in leaving the meeting-house for the chapel, now, for the first time, found circumstances favourable to exhibit in practice that aversion and asperity, which had lain partly concealed seven years: but which seven years could not cool or abate. They collected followers, male and female, formed a *corps* of eighteen, less than a fifth part of the church which they left; proceeded in rapid march, and under the auspices of six congregational ministers, styling themselves an *ex parte* council, and soon after *three* congregational ministers, entitled the *organizing council*. Yes; and these three counsellors, without warrant from their churches, or a single delegate to act

with them, formed a new church. Its members, and those very ministers knew it, had then, and in future, to depend wholly on the meeting-house, as the place of their religious celebrations—that house, which the College church had considered themselves destined by the measures of the Board to hold. What a phenomenon in sacred story! a new body of believers repairing to the same temple for worship, the same desk for instruction, the same altar for sacrifice, mingling, on the same occasion, with those who dared not own them! But we forbear all discussion of any local dispute—at best, it affords a detail of folly and passion, unproductive of profit or delight. It is sufficient to glance at circumstances attached to the bearings of events in the train before us.

In the month of December, following his appointment to office, Professor Shurtliff was invited by the College church to be ordained and take a pastoral charge. He thought proper to suspend an answer. Dr. Smith renewed his desire, that he would unite and assist him in the exercises of the desk, on days of special administrations—but he found it most convenient to decline, notwithstanding his promises to the President, but when the new organized body had occasion for a pastor, on their particular days of celebration, he could accommodate their wishes by exchanging with neighbouring ministers. Thus we behold causes multiplying to countenance the zeal of party, passions ripening into invective and obloquy, a project, with ardent professions of piety, to establish a new order of things by exterminating the original principles, adopted by the founder, and sanctioned by the conductors of the institution, uninterruptedly, till that time.

The executive officers of College, affected by the evil of such a disordered scene; and viewing with solicitude consequences; which threatened the best interests of the institution, laid their situation, and the state of matters, partly in writing, and in part orally, before the Board of Trustees and their committee, at their meeting, August 31, 1805.

The committee of the Board recommended; that the executive be earnestly requested to make every exertion, consistent with the honour of the College, and the spirit of christianity, to settle the difficulties; and, if they should not be able, then, to call to their aid a mutual council.—Also, that a committee of their body be appointed to attend to all matters of difficulty, which might be laid before them; and that, should the executive be finally unable to effect a settlement, the said committee should endeavour to do it, if possible, and restore harmony—that, in case of failure, they should make a statement of facts, and such measures as they, the said committee, should think expedient for the Trustees to adopt. The report was adopted, and a committee appointed. The Board then proceeded to the following resolutions.

“ Voted, that the Professor of Divinity be requested not to accept of ordination until the next session of this Board, or until he be notified by the President of the College, that the existing

" difficulties, which have occasioned the above mentioned executive representation, are removed."

" Voted, that the Rev. Dr. John Smith, having retired, at his own request, from the labour of preaching to the members of College, and having, for nearly twenty-one years, ministered to the people, in this vicinity, and, during all that time, walked in exemplary godliness and honesty, and proved himself to be a faithful and useful *preacher* and *pastor*—we deem it our duty to express an *entire approbation* of his past services, our grateful acknowledgements therefor, and fervent prayers for his happiness."

Pursuant to the advice of the Board, a mutual council was called—the vague, indeterminate style of their result increased the evil. The committee, also above mentioned, according to their instructions, attended carefully to the matter, and eyed every operation in the scene. They conversed with individuals, and conferred with the leaders. The measures of the executive officers accorded wholly with the advice of this committee, who found every proposition made by them, every endeavour, to no effect. It remained for them to make report to the Trustees ; it was dated the 16th of May, and contained a statement of facts and their opinion—that the measures of the executive had been accommodating, and conformable to the advice of the Board—that the committee had adopted every possible expedient with those in opposition, which might terminate the difficulties and restore peace ; but all abortive. And that no alternative remained but to recommend the propriety of accommodating the officers and students with some proper place for religious worship, and administration of the ordinances.

" *At a meeting of the Board of Trustees of Dartmouth College, at said College, August 29, 1806.*"

" Voted, that the report of the committee appointed in relation to existing difficulties be recommitted to the same committee, and that they be requested to point out, particularly, the place of public worship contemplated, &c.—and the manner in which their report may be carried into effect."

They might, at once, have fixed upon the chapel as the place—it was amply sufficient for all the religious purposes of the institution ; and, besides the members, others might, conveniently, have attended. But the meeting-house being larger, there was a desire to retain it, as the place, for the accommodation of a greater number. Hence the same committee, in addition to their former report of May 16th, among other things, not essential to the present purpose, recommended the purchase of seats to the amount of one thousand dollars.

An agent was appointed, in conformity, to contract with the owners, for the purchase of seats in the meeting-house, but ob-

structions arose from the unorganized state of the proprietors, and the spirit of some, who had long undertaken to profit by troubles; and, by flattery, and by threats, now thought to allure, or to awe the Board to change their design. The agent made his report---a committee was appointed to attend to, and consider the same. With views and apprehensions, produced in the rapid conjuncture, they formed into a plan, the materials prepared, and ripened in private consultations, between some individuals and the leaders in opposition, and adapted to their wishes. This plan was presented by the committee; and it became an act of the Trustees. We will turn our eyes to that ominous part of it, which, under the semblance of equal justice, was made a covert to demolish ancient rights and usages, acknowledged and consecrated by themselves.

The Board now resolved, that the officers and students of College should have equal and common right to the said house, with the proprietors, for the purpose of religious worship and administration of the ordinances---" and provided, there shall be two or " more bodies of professing christians who usually attend public " worship in said house, and who may wish to enjoy the admin- " istration of the ordinances in said house, and who do not hold " fellowship with each other, that they may not interrupt each " other, they may and shall have their previously stated days in " succession for such administration, so as not to have the ad- " ministration to the one on the day prefixed for the administra- " tion to the other." " Provided the Professor of Theology may " exchange with any regular ordained minister, conformably to " an arrangement already made by the whole of the executive, " [this arrangement of the executive, and authorized by the Board, " was confined to an exception of those clergymen alone, who dar- " ed to encroach on Presbyterian ground, to interfere with its " government, extract its members to form them into a new ec- " clesiastical machine, modelled by their assumed power, without " example in the purer usages of the congregational order] when " thereto requested by any number of professing christians, who " usually attend upon his preaching, for the purpose of having " special religious ordinances administered to them by such min- " ister; provided reasonable notice be publickly given from the " desk of the time or times fixed for such administration, and the " time or times, so fixed, do not interfere with other administra- " tions of the same kind."

This resolve, with that just before, is a fair picture of the descent of the Trustees from the dignified post of their predecessors, and their own, to a shiftless course of procedure. But how was such a change affected, the work of two days? Was it, that they were overwhelmed with fear by an address signed by a number of ministers,* mostly men of worth, innocently moved by the delusive

* The petition of these ministers that Mr. Shurtliff might preach in the meeting-house was dismissed by vote, but the measure they desired was adopted. Some of them have expressed their sorrow for their interference in the affairs of College.

representations, and ghostly tales of a few designing declaimers for orthodoxy? or was it their harmless wish, in a season fruitful of discoveries, to try an experiment on religion and the rights of men, which they had guaranteed and fostered by usage? Be this as it may, that body of professors united in the institution which had been nourished by the Board from its cradle, and existed by their support forty-six years, was now thrust into the same house of public worship with a new body of professors, who, in the words of the Trustees, were *not in fellowship with the College church*, its President or Professors, one excepted. This Professor, instead of appropriating his time to lectures of Theology, is made the preacher of the village, and authorized to procure some ordained minister to administer the sacraments to this new body, which was not in fellowship with any of his colleagues in office. Thus, the College church not chargeable with crime or disorder, and irreproachable, as declared by the most authentic scrutiny, was left without the proper means of future existence—the preacher of the Trustees, who, we have seen, as such ought to have been distinct, though in this character he was the Professor of Theology, not walking in fellowship had other attachments.—The benevolence of Dr. Smith continued to administer, and the venerable Dr. Burroughs, whose hoary locks betrayed his near approach to eighty years, succeeded him in care and goodness, without any possible adequate reward. The vine, however, with its harmonious branches, was drooping: it felt the blast of power. Exiled from the enjoyment of repose and privilege, the sufferers remained with no relief, but the testimony of a good conscience before God, and the sanction of their innocence by that high tribunal, to which they were subject. But all polemic discussion, and ecclesiastical dispute, is foreign from our subject, which only concerns the cause of justice, in regard to the institution and the rights of individuals connected therewith.

Through the four succeeding years, with solicitude that obstacles might be removed and harmony established, attempts were made by personal conferences and committees. These being without effect, the case was referred to the presbytery in July 1811. Having carefully examined the matter through the long train of its stages, with all objections, that could be offered (and the opposers were invited to bring any charges they pleased against the body or any individuals) they declared in their result, that the course pursued, and the measures adopted by the College church, had been *regular* and *consistent from the beginning*—and that it became its incumbent duty to continue firm and steadfast on the ground, which it had invariably held.

Whether the poison, which had been so long contaminating social order, was increased by the resolutions and measures of the Board will appear by the chain of faithful copies, and extracts, and references, exhibited in *this work*. Be this as it may, they held, at will, the controul of the stated preaching and ad-

ministration of ordinances in their support, at this place. It became, therefore, a duty, as the only alternative, to endeavour to revive their consideration of a subject so familiarized to their view and practice in former times. This attempt occupied a part of a letter to them, referred to in the former note, at their session, August 27, 1811. It recalled to their mind the religious interests of the institution, the measures, in regard to the pastoral administrations and concerns, which had been adopted, and continued till a late period, by the sanction and support of the Board ; the disorders naturally arising, consequent to a change of those measures, destructive of peace and reproachful to religion ; and the oppression of the College church, and its members, with their blighted hopes. The Trustees were entreated to restore order in its former arrangement, that the wounds of the institution might be healed, and its prosperity revive. The consideration of the subject was laid over to their adjourned meeting in October following.

The Board of Trustees, accordingly, at their session, October 23d, attended to the above part of the said letter referred to, and in answer, resolved in the words before mentioned, on another occasion, *that they have made such provision for religious instruction and the administration of the ordinances, as circumstances required :*

A vacancy had been recently occasioned in the professorship of Philosophy, by the death of the learned and amiable *John Hubbard*. At the election to fill that office, the Board were earnestly requested to appoint one, who might act as administrator to those of the old church at the College, without interfering with the duties of his office, without any expense to the Corporation, without incommoding any persons newly organized and united with the professor of Theology, and which would remove all difficulties, and disorders, which had so long afflicted the peace of the College. Two or three were nominated ; one, in particular, a person distinguished for his talents, manners, and piety, and in high rank for classic taste and improvement. He was passed by. The name of another was mentioned, with whom the members of the Board were little acquainted, except by some solitary individuals, who appeared to take, on this occasion, a strong interest in his favour. A letter from a distant clergyman, in his behalf, to a member, was read ; and he was, at once, elected. In the midst of these transactions, it did not require a prophetic eye to discern his probable acceptance, and its baleful issue to the desirable object, the prosperity of the College.

As a last effort to terminate all disorder and confusion, which affected the social state of the university, and to enjoy the ordinances in peace and harmony, without incommoding others, an address was made to the Board, by the President, with the desire of other officers, that they would consent and give their countenance to them and such students as might incline to meet for religious purposes in some place more conducive to the public good than that.

in its circumstances, which they had occupied. This request was accompanied with the express wishes to the same effect, of a great majority of the members of the institution then present.

In answer to the above representation, the Trustees resolved---*that they would make no other provision, but what they had already made at the meeting-house ; but, as there was a very unhappy division among the professors of religion, and the President desires some other place may be provided, where religious ordinances may be attended to, he and those officers, who cannot with comfort and edification worship with the society, usually worshipping at the meeting-house, may withdraw to worship at the College chapel, or other place which they may appoint, and such students may attend with them as request that permission of any of the executive officers.*—Thus a law was made—the die was cast ; that the President, other officers, and members of College with them, were destined to enjoy the privileges of worship and religious ordinances *only* at the same place under circumstances, which for the sake of peace, they had long submitted to in silence ;—and no consolation for the afflicted, but permission to withdraw, if not contented, to the chapel, or where they pleased, and *provide for themselves*, at their own private cost.

We have traced the history of religious worship and ordinances of the Institution and the interesting measures and regulations of the Board, in relation to them, during the course of above forty years. It remains now to review the picture, to collect, and bring into clear light the more important facts.

It is then undeniable that a church, was established at the College, that this church, religious ordinances, and preaching, were, from the beginning supported and cherished by the Board of Trustees, who made annual provision, as necessary, for the same, and that, on the faith of such habitual practice, the officers and members of the Institution, and the neighboring people convened for worship, and many through succeeding years entered into covenant in this religious community. By the order of the Board, the officers, the pastor, the worship, and ordinances, were transferred in 1796 from the chapel to the meeting-house. An unhappy dispute arising between the proprietors of the house and the Board, they ordered all back to the chapel, in the following year. At this period, the hostile feelings of a mercenary few, members of the church, and proprietors, or connected with them, commenced against the officers of the Institution, and especially the preacher and pastor. These were still retained and cherished, after the Board again ordered the officers to return and the ordinances to be restored at the meeting-house. A new preacher, as Professor of Theology, was appointed by the Board in 1804. He did not, as the pastor and church had the fullest ground to expect, from his promise, unite with them in fellowship :—he was applauded, and his praises celebrated by those disaffected persons. A very few speedily associated—they professed to rally around

his standard—the party was formed—though but about one sixth of the number of the church, they left it abruptly.—Organized under the name of a new church, they took possession of the meeting-house for the administration of their ordinances,—all against the expostulations, and remonstrances of the body who it was obvious, could hold no fellowship with them.

Let us now turn to the Board of Trustees, who held the appointments, support, and control. They determined no provision to be made for the College church, but only at the same house, which the new organized persons had claimed;—they proceeded by vote, to authorize the Professor of Theology, (he being not yet ordained) to supply this new body with administrators by exchanges.—They adopted a measure, which placed the religious administrations more completely at their command; for they resolved that the partial support, which they had urged the people, before, annually to allow for preaching, should no longer be *received*; but that, in future, the Professor or preacher should be *exclusively* supported by themselves, though the people had become more numerous and wealthy. When the Professors Smith and Hubbard, who belonged to the old communion, were removed by death, in the years 1809 and 1810, the opinion of the President, and any, who respected the former principles, system, and usages of the seminary, were of no avail, and such were elected, who entered into the measures and views of the leaders of the new body;—and the Professor of Theology, receiving ordination, became its pastor. We have only to add the finishing resolve of the Board, which, in amount, decreed, that the ancient church with its professors should remain in privation under the burden of grievance and sorrow.

For the truth of what has been said, we appeal to the voluminous records of the Institution, the very votes of the Trustees, in the foregoing copies, extracts, and references—to other testimonials and written documents, if needful, which, to avoid prolixity, are not brought into the present view. What is wanting, but a glance through the chain of their proceedings, to show, that the Board of Trustees supported and encouraged the being, the growth, and increase of a religious community, united with the Institution, from its cradle thirty five years? What but that the pastor, the preacher of their own appointment, and other officers, members of this community, by faithfully obeying and executing the express orders of this Board, excited irritation and hostile feelings in some individuals opposed to those orders? After these had proceeded till they became the leaders of a few associates, and broke the ties which had bound them, and formed into a new religious band, did not the Board of Trustees repeal their acceptance of the report of their own committee, and soon enter into temporizing measures to give countenance and favor to this new created body? Did not the Board go on to encourage, and establish this new body of opposers on the ruins of the long continued

and proper church, by giving full support to the Professor of Theology, as the preacher and pastor of the former, by passing by the opinion of those of their number unnoticed, who thought differently, and cautiously supplied vacancies with such as would fully unite in the measures, opposed to the ancient system?---In a word this venerable religious establishment, which God has been pleased to own and bless; which, in the midst of imperfections, has endeavoured to move with innocence, which is conscious of no just cause of offence to any; which has been acquitted of all chargable guilt, and justified by a proper and authorized tribunal, and is in good standing with all the regular and orthodox;---this very establishment, the church at the college, consecrated, through the Emmanuel to the God of Jacob, which the Board by their resolves had always before nourished and supported, they have at length, for some unknown reason, consigned to neglect, as a proper object of extermination. They have turned their calculations, their powers, the funds, the resources of the seminary, to build up, and fortify the novel structure, which we have seen.---And what besides, but they have converted the sufferings, in exceeding their orders, into the occasion of new afflictions to their faithful servants, to say no more, the oldest and active friends of the seminary:---But though its beloved pastor is no more, and the church is left to wander in a state of pilgrimage, still may it rejoice and trust in the Lord. He is the rock of ages, and he will protect his heritage, and those who are faithful and love him.

Will any pretend, that the members of the Board, who turned the votes to favor the recent innovations, were actuated by sentiments of liberality, to have no concern with any particular religious denomination?---The principle itself is incorrect---and how far they have been actuated by that, or by other motives, their resolutions and doings, already exhibited, will testify. New light may be added, by bringing into view other considerations, which draw our attention.

NOTE.

Causes of the revival, progress, and prosperity of the College and School, from the year 1779.

Never can it be made a question, that, from the nature and design of all literary Institutions, those, who are appointed to instruct and govern the same, should be actuated by a spirit of harmony and confidence in one another. This remark derives peculiar force, as applied to the establishment now before us, from its circumstances, and its charter, and the Board of Trustees continued, for thirty years, their lively sense of its importance.

From their first meeting, in the year 1770, in all executive ap-

pointments, different persons were thought of and brought into view, the existing executive authority consulted together, under the best advantages by their situation to judge of proper characters, under no influence, but to fix their eye on such as would be most useful to the seminary, and deeply interested, for the public good, that those be chosen, who could move in open unreserved friendship, unitedly, in the regulation and instruction of the members---the Trustees considered the executive entitled to regard in a case so delicate in its nature and circumstances, they felt its importance, and it had just weight with them in all their annual elections till the year 1809. During that long protracted period they never elected one to fill a vacancy, in the executive of the internal government and instruction, against the serious objection of the President and others with him in office.

It was such harmonious and undisguised confidence, pervading the Board, and the executive officers, that raised from its seed, planted by Divine Providence in a remote wilderness, the stock to a towering height, with extending branches. Thus, by the labor of the founder, and his successor, with the cooperation of Professors, Woodward, Ripley, Smith and Hubbard, and tutors annually chosen, one thousand and seven students, from remote parts of the union in gradually increasing numbers, completed their education, within the limits of thirty years. Many besides at the same time, in uninterrupted succession, were educated in Moors' School---We cannot, within the same period, fail to turn our eyes to the medical department; that splendid establishment, made in the year 1798, to instruct students for the profession of physic; for the basis, superstructure and management of which greatly is the republic of science and humanity indebted to the genius, enterprise, and skill of Dr. Nathan Smith, and to the capacity, learning, and perseverance of Dr. Cyrus Perkins, afterwards associated with him in the Professorship. The streams from the general fountain presented about three hundred engaging in the sacred ministry, many in the practice of physic, more in the political, civil, and literary occupations, all scattered through the states, some high in fame, and few, very few, not made by God blessings to church and state.

Under the same benign influences of friendly confidence and harmonious cooperation, in those times that are passed, the external concerns of the Institution were conducted. God protected the ship, riding o'er the ocean, through shelves, and breakers, and quicksands, in blasts, and storms, to a goodly port.---The founder and first president spent the nine first years of that period, in planting and raising up a new society, in converting forests into fields,---supporting many youths on charity. Persevering through difficulties, without any stipend for his labors, the seminary grew in vital strength;---but destitute of patronage in America, its resources in Europe mostly expended, and the residue wholly obstructed, beset with calamities by the troubles and disasters of the

revolutionary war, it was reduced, in childhood, to nakedness and want, in the year 1779. Soon after the treasurer, making an estimate of the demands upon it, pronounced that all the property of the corporation, if sold at vendue, would not be sufficient to cancel its debts.—Under these clouds, the successor of the founder came into office, with a humble sense of his duty, and a belief that God, who had protected and sustained the seminary, in floods of trouble, would relieve, and build it up. He solicited benefactions abroad for support of the charity youths of the school in 1780, 1781, and 1782.

In the latter part of that year Dr. Wheelock, the president, sat off for Europe. The Institution and his design were known, and sanctioned by very ample recommendations, unnecessary to be inserted here, issuing from the highest sources in America—from the President and a great majority of the members of Congress, in their official characters ;—it ought to be recorded—from the *Father of his Country*, GEORGE WASHINGTON, who well knew Dr. Wheelock, while an officer in the revolutionary war, and honored him with his particular notice and friendship ; from many of the most celebrated generals of the army, and Governors of the different states, with introductory letters from the Chevalier de l'Luzern minister plenipotentiary from the court of Versailles to Count de Vergennes prime minister of France, from the Secretary of the United States, and other eminent characters to different parts of Europe.

After some weeks spent in France, Dr. Wheelock, receiving introductory and friendly letters to Mr. Dumas, the American *Charge des Affairs*, and others in Holland, from Dr. Franklin, and John Adams, proceeded to the Netherlands. A considerable sum was obtained in the Netherlands : but we omit a particular account of the respectful treatment and generous benefactions he received from the prince of Orange and others high in office.

Thence he embarked for Great-Britain, partly with a view, much lessened by the public feelings from the revolution in America, to obtain some new aids ; but chiefly to reclaim and negotiate for the fund in Scotland, belonging to the School. It had been barred from before the death of his predecessor, whose bills were protested, and still lay with their charges unredeemed, besides large accounts for the support of Indian youths, without the means of payment, unless by exhausting the residue of the property of the College. He travelled from Poole to London, where he paid his first and grateful respects to the Earl of Dartmouth, Mr. John Thornton (a father, by his virtues, deserving of two sons both distinguished members of parliament, and one ambassador to the court of Sweden) and others, who, being formerly the board of trust, had been in friendly relations with the founder, and patronized, and cherished the seminary, in the jeopardies of its infancy. With his eyes invariably on the object, by an introductory letter from Dr. Macclion, to Ralph Griffith, Esq

L. L. D. he obtained friendly access to Mr. Straghn, member of parliament and the king's printer, and became acquainted with his son-in-law, Mr. Spotswood. This respected gentleman, largely connected, and concerned in the agencies of Scotland, took a benevolent and decisive part in consulting, and adopting measures to restore the fund, at Edinburgh, in the care of the society, to its primitive channel. Communications were opened---the bills were paid; and the way prepared for future negotiations, till the society were convinced of the justice of the claim. The money has, since, been applied to the support of the school in its original design; and arrearages of interest remitted to the President to cancel the debts overwhelming the seminary. He, also, while in England, as on the continent, procured some coins and articles appreciated by the *virtuosi*. By the benevolence of Paul Wentworth Esq. Doctor Rose and other friends to the College some valuable philosophical instruments were obtained, and others promised, the making of which the two former kindly engaged to superintend, and forward the whole, so soon as completed, to America. A way, besides, was preparing to provide natural curiosities for a museum. Those instruments, with their additions, well constructed, forming an apparatus sufficient for all the more important experiments and observations in natural philosophy, afterwards arrived; and at the same time a curious and valuable collection of stones and fossils from India, and different parts of Europe, for the museum, from the beneficent Mr. Forsythe, keeper of the king's gardens, at Kensington. All these, with costs of transportation, were gifts received at the College, by the Trustees. Only a word more; a large and elegant gold medal was presented by Mr. Clyde of London, to Dr. Wheelock, in his official character. It is wholly irrelevant to our purpose, and needless to speak of the personal civilities and friendly notices of lord Rawden, by whose goodness he was introduced at the house of lords, of Sir John Wentworth, Sir J. Blois, Dr. Prie, and others, besides those before mentioned.

Late in autumn, at Gravesend, he went on board ship, Capt. Callihan commander, for America. Dismasted on the banks of Newfoundland, it put in at Halifax, a few days. Sailing thence, a violent storm arose---the vessel, two days under bare poles, on the third night, stranded and broke, overwhelmed with the raging billows, supposed on George's banks.---The passengers, with several old captains, and all on board, except the captain and mate lashed to the masts, confined below, almost suffocated, expected instant death. In the morning the headland of Cape-Cod was discerned, the shattered mass beating towards the coast at Provincetown. The inhabitants on shore hastened to relieve the distressed, and carried them from the wreck to the beach:---and thus God protected, and rescued them from the jaws of destruction. Losing all but the clothes, which he wore, he proceeded to Boston; and, towards the end of January, in 1784, arrived at Hanover. Happy that he could not take with him on his return from Europe,

those remittances and effects for the College and school, which, by his arrangements, were afterwards received.

In the same year, within three months after the President's return, the Board of Trustees convened and resolved, if sufficient means could be obtained, to erect an edifice of about 150 by 50 feet, three stories in height, for the College with convenient accommodations for the members. The President, Professors, and some of the Trustees in the vicinity, were requested by the Board to solicit subscriptions for the purpose. They depended on Dr. Wheelock's exertions, he cheerfully undertook. By his arrangement and exertions, in that and the following year 1785, and by his agents, near fifteen thousand dollars were given but mostly subscribed to be paid, and chiefly by responsible men in different places. The subscriptions and payments were all put into the hands of the contractor. He commenced and carried on the building. But in 1786 he was unable to procure supplies and nothing but an immediate cessation of the business appeared—Dr. Wheelock afforded relief, by furnishing the joiners about twenty in number with sustenance through the season, and aiding in the collection of materials. In the succeeding years, the subscriptions and means in the hands of the contractor being exhausted, he procured by bills on Mrs. Wheelock's agent in the West Indies, and by a residue remitted from Holland and in other ways by his friends abroad, and his own donation of \$333 00, all the glass, the nails, the vane and spire and other articles and some pay towards the labor. A bell he had by solicitation, obtained before. By the seventh year from the beginning of its foundation, the edifice was finished, and well prepared for the reception of the students. We will now return to trace another chain of operation.

Dr. Wheelock, though not at the particular request of the Board, attended the Legislature of Vermont, June 14, 1785—he solicited; and they made a grant of a township, 23,040 acres, one half to the College and the other half to the School, to be free from all public taxes forever. As soon as practical he procured a survey—obtained a charter—and made calculations for its settlement. Families rapidly moved in, till near the number of one hundred. He disposed of a large part of the tract in small portions on long leases. A few years rent free, the annual product has been to the College and School, each, six hundred dollars.

We now turn to the state of New-Hampshire. Dr. Wheelock had applied by the desire of the Board, to the General Court for a Lottery, and obtained it; but from unexpected events not answering the purpose, they requested him in 1787 to present a memorial to the Legislature for another lottery under different modifications—Professor Woodward attended as agent—the design was effected, and the avails received by the Board.

The pressure of demands on the College induced him to apply and attend the Legislature, in the month of January, 1789, for the

charter of a tract of land on Connecticut river and near the northern confine of the state. A committee was appointed—occasional discussions arose for several days—the matter was finally brought before the House. The Senate and House of Representatives passed an act granting to the Trustees of Dartmouth College a valuable tract of eight miles square, about 42,000 acres adjoining north of Stewarts town. The forcible and energetic eloquence of General Sullivan, that eminent commander in the revolutionary war, in the debate on this subject, cannot be forgotten—It drew him from his bed, amidst the first attacks of fatal disease—and it was the last speech which he ever made in public.—This interesting grant scattered the clouds just bursting on the Institution. It was now harrassed with heavy debts of an early standing in its losses at Landaff, which amounted to \$30,000.

At the time of obtaining the above grant. Dr. Wheeloek also negotiated to recover the donation of five hundred and eighty-three dollars, made by Dr. John Phillips, in 1772, to the College, and deposited in the hands of Gov. Wentworth, which, after he left the country was considered, from his circumstances, as wholly lost—But Dr. Wheeloek adopted measures and secured an account of the same and interest out of confiscated property twelve hundred and three dollars in notes and certificates, which he received of the Treasurer of the State, for the Trustees. He, also, received about that period, one hundred and twenty-five dollars, committed to his agency by the same great benefactor, in a particular conference, to transact with the Board, said sum to be given in his name to them; only on the express condition, that *they would agree to sequester with it his gift of about 4000 acres of land by deed to them in 1781.* As an *accumulating fund for the express purpose of supporting a professor of Theology.* They accepted the gift and sequestered the property on the terms of the donor. Reader, please to compare this with some things in the first section.

The President had taken into his own hands, at the desire of the Board, the management of the finances and external interest of the College, and continued to conduct, and regulate them, for five years, through its difficult and trying scenes. Having, besides what has been mentioned, among other arrangements, leased a number of lots permanently productive, secured the appropriation of several valuable tracts, in the vicinity of the College, to the use of professorships, and provided relief by obtaining the means to free the seminary from its weight of debts, he resigned to the Board, in August following, the particular charge of the finances, except retaining in trust the disposal of the College moiety of the township in Vermont till a few years after, when he had completed the proposed object of settling and leasing the same.

The next year, 1790, there being no proper place for the public religious and literary exercises of the members of the seminary, the apartment of the old building falling into decay and ruin, he

undertook, made arrangements, provided the means, and erected, by contract, in five months, a chapel, near the new College edifice. It is 50 feet by 36, of two stories height, arched within, and completely finished, and painted without—convenient, and well adapted to the objects proposed.

While Dr. Wheelock was thus advancing the fiscal interest of the institution, never did he lose sight of Moors' Charity School, the root, planted in 1742, by the former President, from which the luxuriant stock of the College sprang. His successor entering into office, found, as we have seen, both languishing and destitute of property—but convinced of the loving kindness of God to the humble and faithful, and that the cause, as it had been, would be owned by him, he continued the maintenance of the school, and youths of different tribes left to him on charity. A smaller part bestowed by the beneficent, the most was furnished for them at his own expense and credit:—no source, but his own, for the board of a master, many years, till the income from lands rented by him, in the tract given by Vermont. This fund, by the grant, might be applied for the benefit of youths of our nation and Indian tribes—the latter were the exclusive object of the fund in Scotland, at which we will glance.

Not long after his return from Europe, he received a letter from the *Society for propagating Christian knowledge*, dated October 7, 1784, mentioning their readiness, from the satisfactory evidence adduced to pay the protested bills of his predecessor and to apply in future the avails of the fund, collected for the school, to its support in instructing the Indians. In 1785, he sent to the society an account of former expenditures for the support of Indian youths, and drew bills to the amount of six hundred and twenty-five pounds sterling, in part of what was due—the debts contracted by the first President, and a smaller amount by himself, on the credit of the monies in their care for the school. Soon after they organized a board of Commissioners, at Boston, and authorized and desired them to examine particularly the accounts and expenditures of the school. The Commissioners, after a full examination of the same with their vouchers, resolved, April 9, 1788, that they had no reason to doubt but the expenditures were made according to his accounts.—Their result, with other testimonials, were forwarded, accompanying another bill, drawn by him, on the society. Faithful to their trust, and still desirous of more light, they refused acceptance of this bill. They desired their Commissioners again to attend, to be minute in their enquiries, and inspections into all the accounts and expenditures of the school from the beginning to that time; to ascertain, if they had been kept distinct from the interest of the College; and what property the school might be possessed of in America. Dr. Wheelock, accordingly, with all the accounts, original entries, documents, vouchers, testimonies, and other evidences, met the Commissioners at Boston. After a critical examination and investi-

gation of particulars and circumstances through the whole, after several days they formed a result on the 11th of June, 1789, that there had been *no perversion* of the monies by the late Dr. Wheelock; that the accounts had been kept distinct from those of the College; and that there was justly due to the present Dr. Wheelock the balance of one thousand one hundred and ninety pounds ten shillings and one penny, expended for the benefit of the school exclusively, in expectation of being repaid by the society.—Thus, in the triumph of truth and justice, the affair, after a long train of embarrassing, unexpected difficulties, was put at rest.—The channel of that fund has been since unobstructed—its interest at 4 per cent has, in general supported three of the natives, at School, with every necessary and convenience.

He caused a new building to be erected and finished, with a yard, in 1791—two stories high, the lower appartment convenient to accommodate near a hundred youths. The school was improved in the order and regulation of its members under the distinguished talents and fidelity of their instruetor Mr. Dunham, the present Secretary of Vermont.—At the request of the society three years after it was visited by a committee of their Boston commissioners charged with the solution of a number of queries in regard to its state, relations and property. Their favorable report was transmitted to Scotland.

Of the large debts accumulated for the support of the school, in the latter years of the first president, to discharge the most pressing part, the Trustees had consented to the disposal of lands and property in their hands, hoping that the amount would be replaced. The advances, thus made, the President considered himself as holden in justice to refund; and accordingly paid them for the College, in the year 1793, four thousand dollars, besides some items of small amount before.

Not long after the Vermont grant began to yield a partial rent to the College and school, dark surmises were circulated, and grew into reports; that it was obtained by art and collusion—the school never incorporated to be known in law—the title to the land, consequently, invalid. The dealers in malice and speculation united, with the countenance and aid of one, however absurd, highly influential in the concerns of the Institution. Matters prepared, a petition was presented in 1799, to the General Assembly sitting at Windsor, to vacate the grant.—A large committee was appointed to examine the case, and make report. Dr. Wheelock was notified by the chairman when they should sit. He repaired to the place with the proper documents. In the result of long and adjourned inquiries and discussions, the committee resolved and reported, that the grant was fairly made, the school had a well known being, and they could find no ground for process to vacate the title. It was carried before the House, and the matter seemed to be put to perpetual rest, though only to revive in future time with a more threatening and dangerous aspect.

The Institution was increasing; and its interest in a prosperous train till the year 1805. Its exigencies then requiring it, he in June, personally attended the General Court of New-Hampshire; and obtained of them a grant of nine hundred dollars, for the College.

The Rev. Israel Evans at that time was a member of the Board. He had expressed more than once, in intimate conversation, to Dr. Wheelock, their friendship having been long cemented in scenes of war and peace, his desire to do something for the good of mankind and the Institution. He, finally, remarked that he had made up his mind to sequester a portion of his property as the foundation for a professorship of eloquence; which he knew would also be agreeable to Mrs. Evans. Confined by sickness, the succeeding year, at his earnest request by a special Message, the Doctor paid him a visit. The latter expressed in his family, his views and design; and receiving from the former an assent to his wishes to insert his name as one of the executors, proceeded in the full exercise of his mental faculties, to complete his will. Besides his bequests otherwise, he gave of money in the funds, and real estate, the amount of about seven thousand dollars, or upwards, in reversion to the Trustees of Dartmouth College, after the death of his wife, as a permanent fund for a professor of eloquence.

About the same time, Dr. Wheelock attended the General Court, to open the way for their favorable attention to the important objects of the Institution—Matters were in suspense till the next session, in June 1807, when he, again, personally appeared before the Legislature. His memorial was considered, committed, and after report, an act was made, granting to the Trustees of the College a township of the contents of six miles square, to be laid out on the border of the District of Maine, to the approbation of the Governor and counsel. The land was surveyed; mostly an excellent tract, watered by a branch of the river Amoriseogin running central through the whole, and near the northern turnpike road—he waited on them with the plan, and obtained their ratification in 1808.

In the progress of those events, the spirit of surmise, and jealousy arose from its restless slumbers. Dark hints swelled into charges, that he was applying property, passing into his hands for the seminary from Europe, New-Hampshire and Vermont, to his private benefit. An attempt was at length made to revive the subject of the grant in Vermont, which had been considered and laid aside at Windsor; and resume the old reasons with some more recent charges, to prove it a nullity, or at least a forfeiture to the State. In October 1806, Dr. Wheelock received intelligence from Middlebury. There the General Assembly had convened, and determined to call up the subject, and adopt some measure upon it—He repaired to that place, where Judge Jacob, in behalf of the Trustees, joined him; for the College associated

with the School in the same grant, the fate of the former was involved in that of the latter. Already had a committee been appointed to make report. They proposed a surrender of the charter. It was refused.—They, then, recommended to the Legislature to institute an action to vacate the charter. Many upright judicious members were brought to suppose the President guilty of gross abuses. They were ready to act; but adjourned the business, to agree on the mode.—This was prepared and fixed at their next meeting in Woodstock. The General Assembly then, in October 1807, appointed and authorized two agents, counsellors at law, for the seizing that town with all its valuable settlements from the school and of course the College, to institute a prosecution in behalf of the state, against *John Wheelock*, and to file in a *bill* against him before their high Court of Chancery. This bill was voluminous with recitals, and heavy charges of fraud, perversion and embezzlement of public property. The action was brought before the court, September following;—and, on the plea of the accused, the trial was adjourned.—The conjuncture was critical and interesting. He contemplated his doom at the impending trial; as the popular current was strong against him and his cause, and, as the judges, elected, annually, by the legislature, would be subject to powerful motives of interest, and office to determine as the organ of their supposed will. As the only alternative, and at the only time in that interval, the next month, transporting the ledgers, original entries, documents, papers, evidencies, of all receipts, and applications of public property, in Europe and America, particularly in Vermont, that had passed through his hands; also, authorities, and evidencies, that the school, in a sole corporate capacity, could of right hold property in law—with these he appeared at the General Assembly sitting in Montpelier. His memorial represented to them the state and circumstances of the action; the importance of its issue to the Institution, and what ought to be considered more interesting to him than life itself, his own character and reputation. He desired, that, as their court of chancery stood in a delicate relation to them, and he and the Institution belonged to another state, to produce a fair and impartial trial, they would condescend to agree with the defendant to transfer the action to the federal tribunal, or to eminent jurists in the neighboring states mutually chosen. These proposals were utterly rejected. He then entreated the house to become a tribunal themselves—offering to appear, at any hour for trial before their whole body or their committee,—and remarked that he had in the place, and was ready to exhibit before all, or any individuals, in the most open and unreserved manner, all accounts of receipts and expenditures of any public property which had ever fallen into his hands, especially of that, in their state, belonging to the seminary; and also, evidence to prove its right and title to the same. The legislature granted his request, and appointed a very large committee to examine into the

state of the school, the grant, and managements in relation to them. After many particular and minute inquiries, attending to numerous documents, papers and evidences at adjourned meetings, they made a result and reported it to the house—That the school had capacity to hold estates, the grant fairly made, and matters regularly conducted—that there was no room for a question, but the prosecution instituted in chancery ought to be withdrawn by the state.—This report was recommitted to a new committee, who also reported, confirming what the former committee had done. The Council, and House of Representatives, then resolved Nov. 5, 1808, by an overwhelming majority, to accept the reports; and issued an order to withdraw the Bill from the files of chancery, also passing a bill to confirm the grant. Thus the long dispute in Vermont ended, the land is confirmed to the College and School, and no ground for future doubt.

In tracing the fiscal history of the Institution, another increasing source of profit must not escape our view.—In the year 1779, while the burden was destined to Professor Woodward to develop its intricate involvements and attend to its remaining property and ingulfing debts, the instruction of the classes, and preaching, were assigned to Professors Ripley and Smith, when the second President came into office. Of the twenty eight, the number of students, several were wholly on charity, others objects of charity, a large part of the residue scanty in the means of support. No source of income, but the tuition of those, able to pay, its small amount and partly in produce, was divided between the instructors, the President receiving nothing—and this was insufficient to supply *them* with the necessaries of life without some avails of the college lands exposed to sale for creditors. With the increase of the number of students, the circumstances of the instructors became more easy. Small occasional allowances were made, and their salaries gradually raised till 1807, when they amounted to six hundred dollars to each of the Professors and about 300\$ to the tutor. The board had uniformly adopted the strictest frugality in their allowances.—And, except a few latter years, but three instructors with the President unitedly and indefatigably engaged in the whole care of the government, classical literature, and religious ordinances. By such economy the product of the tuition bills progressively increased till the year 1809. Then it appeared that the Treasurer held from that source, after balancing the demands for instruction and deducting a number of payments to cancel foreign debts, the sum of eight thousand dollars in bonds, obligations, and accounts, mostly good, and real estate in which a part had been vested, due to the Trustees. We shall see what share with the other officers the president had in promoting this accumulation while concerned in what was of more interesting importance, the education of the youths.

Besides his care and attention to the internal and external concerns of the school, his time was devoted to the faithful discharge

of the duties of his office in the College. Unless, while absent in Europe, or occasionally, at short intervals, by the imperious calls of the seminary, as in cases which we have glanced over, or by very rare special providence, he has been uninterruptedly occupied in the government, and instruction of the members, and pursuits of science. Constantly, from the first, once only in each week excepted, has he performed the religious service, morning and evening, at the altar, and expounding the scriptures. The instruction of the senior class has ever been in his care, and superintendence of all the public literary exercises. Add to this his perpetuated practice of one public discussion, every week, on some important topics arranged in the circle of science, two lectures on systematical Theology, every week for twenty-three years, till the appointment of a professor, and one written lecture on ecclesiastical history and the prophesies, each week, for ten years.

While a tutor in the College, more than a year, he received no salary ; and, entering into the office of President, he rendered all his services for the school, near thirty years, without any reward—nor would he receive any compensation for his care and labours for the College during a number of years. In 1782, the Trustees voted 1000 dollars per year to him as President, for three years' services, as his just due. He desired the Trustees to accept this three thousand dollars, as his free gift to the seminary. In 1786 the Board of Trustees, in addition to a former resolve for an allowance of one hundred pound towards his expenses, voted to pay to him 800 pounds *as an inadequate reward* for his care and labours as President during the four preceding years. In return, he desired the Board to accept this sum of eight hundred pounds, or two thousand six hundred and sixty-six dollars and sixty-six cents, “ provided he shall die before making a particular arrangement for the application of it—and, in case of his decease, as “ aforesaid, the Board would consider said sum as his free gift “ to the Trustees, to be applied by them for some permanent “ fund for some office in the College.” In 1789, his involvements and advances towards the new building and other concerns of College, (its circumstances admitting a compliance without inconvenience) obliged him to request the interest, indefinitely, of said sum in the hands of the Trustees. Four years after, in adjustment of accounts, obtaining relief, he relinquished said eight hundred pounds for the use of the College, without any pecuniary consideration, replacing it on the former original conditions of the gift.

The historical anecdotes, now given, lead us to see under what circumstances, by divine providence, this seminary has been built up—and the circumstances, under which, alone, all establishments of the same nature can be made to prosper and flourish. Rarely has an arduous achievement been accomplished by public deliberative bodies. Was it not Thesens, who vanquished the minotaur? and Hercules who took the golden apples, and cut off the heads

of the *Hydra*? Was it not Paul and Peter, and the apostles, and the fathers, who by their *individual* labours, planted the gospel, through immense regions of idolatry? Still modern history is not barren of instances, when societies have encouraged great exertions and enterprize for their own establishment, or its objects. But such cases imply that the members of the body are intimately acquainted with its circumstances and design; interested with primary concern to supply its wants and subserve its purposes, unbiassed by personal or party motives, and liberal of confidence in their faithful agents. We have discerned the rare phenomenon of these combined qualities, distinguishing in their effects the Board and its ministers—which conducted the seminary in that long career, through trials and dangers, to its height of prosperity sketched in our view.

A large portion of the members, (some of them officers) who during those times composed the Board, lived in the vicinity of the College, familiarly acquainted, even before their election, with its first principles and concerns, and bound by stronger ties than is common to men in public relations. At length, the conception, starting from a solitary mind, was embraced by some, that *importance* would be added to the institution by filling future vacancies by characters remote in different parts and more unconnected. From 1803, in the course of a few years, a number of those veterans were removed by death. The new project brought into trial; men of the proposed description were chosen to replace them; respectable in character, but without their means of discerning the true nature and relations of the seminary—its more domestic bearings disclosed in a former *note*. It must be added, that the election of some, best informed of the first principles and state of the seminary, was repeatedly urged but pointedly or artfully opposed, lest by consanguinity, or friendship, they might be attached to former views or methods, or any inheriting the spirit of the founder.

The apprehension was not groundless, that individuals of the Board, and the zealous partizans in the religious disorders, and certain individuals of the clergy, who adventured in the same cause, took a deep interest in these elections. Whether those elected to the successive vacancies, had been, or were more in the way of new sources of opinion and feeling, than of the old, and their minds overwhelmed by *innuendos*, and dark charges, under the semblance of godliness or public spirit, is of no importance to the point in view. There is no disposition to doubt of their good *intention*. But certain it is, that the ancient, unadulterated coin of opinion began to be decried, and a coin of new conceptions was brought, to circulate in the market. Its evidence appears in following the footsteps of the Board in their new and astonishing measures concerning the Phillips fund, and the ordinances of religion, from the year 1804 to 1811, by their own resolutions, and facts, exhibited already in this work. It appears too, by compar-

ing the finances, for the six last years, with their progress and attainment in the *preceding period*. We have just seen the wealth of the institution rising from nihility, in the year 1779, and gradually expanding. We have seen, to accomplish this purpose, the means concerted, the projects, in succession, rapidly executed, under the sanction of those venerable Trustees, in a train, now sleeping in their graves—We have seen by what agency through toils and labours, and hazards. To say no more, but in the result, looking through the annals, in the year 1808, we behold the seminary released from overwhelming debts, left the gainful proprietor of seventy thousand acres of valuable land, and reaping the profit of rents from a considerable part—a stately building with accommodations, and a temple for the students to worship and praise the Lord in—an apparatus; a museum; an increased library: a treasury of near eight thousand dollars, accumulating by the growing amount of the tuition bills, the whole expenses of instruction rising from a less sum to an annual average amount of about two thousand one hundred dollars, in the latter part of that term. But descending through years succeeding, we find the scene reversed. Plans, votes and operations, directed to the *overthrow* of the original system—for this the theological fund continues to be applied, as the fact has been shown, to support a new religious foreign association, to strengthen its alliance and entwine its interest with the College;—for this the singular appointments to office, the new mode of elections, the duties and support of the officers—in a word, the *disposal of the charter*. The late resolutions of the Board, contrasted with the former, are perceived to draw the mind from the great field of projects for science and humanity, to impound it in a sheepeot—to contract expanded benevolence, to the fractional interest of a *sect*, or the by-view of individuals. Is it not, thus, that, through the new drama, filling the space from the last benefaction in our list, generous enterprize has been paralized; solicitude to improve its funds succeeded by apathy; the flood-gate of munificence shut? Is it not by such means that instead of increase, there has been rather a diminution of the property of the College? Instead of open friendly candour in conducting its concerns, have not measures and projects been formed in *secret*, matured and prepared during the recesses by private consultation and agreement in retired abodes, and suddenly introduced and adopted without inquiry or discussion in the public meetings?

A developement of these truths is, in part, already made:—what remains of the business will be finished in the ensuing exposure.

IV. GOVERNMENT AND INSTRUCTION.

WE have drawn under distinct heads sketches of the history of the institution from its origin, and, more particularly, from the death of the first president—the loving-kindness of God—and the means which, under him, produced its growth, and elevation, through stages of adversity. Yes, with delight we followed the Trustees and their ministers, with minds and hearts united, in concerus and projects of the different departments, for Zion and for man. Uninterrupted joy—till, at length, a cloud appeared rising from the horizon to obscure the scene. The work of destruction commenced in secret hints, indirect measures, votes presenting ambiguity in motive:—but soon their effects dispelled the mystery, solved the problem, and exposed the design; nothing short of exterminating the first principles, spirit, and system committed to their charge. Evidence is exhibited in the detail of resolves and facts, in a string, to the year 1809, and of some, in close connexion, two years later. Other proofs shall be given in a view of their proceedings from the former of these last periods to the present time.

The subject is divided into two heads: 1st. the government and instruction of the College; 2d. the concerns of its funds and property. The former I shall survey through succeeding periods, in two parts.

Part 1. Dr. John Smith, Professor of the Languages, a Trustee, and still pastor, under circumstances already noticed, of the College church, a disciple of the old school, perceived in his last years, and strongly resisted, the spirit of innovation. To those of the Board imbued with this spirit, and others whom we have seen from former party motives imbodying with them for mutual convenience, his death was interesting. Two offices, important to their design, were to be filled, and the basis of a third to be shaken. Symptoms of intrigue, or artful management, had been discovered; but soon its full growth will be seen in the light of day.—Not three months after his body was deposited under the clods, the springs of the machine were set in motion—a secret negotiation of a distant member of the Board to sound the views and feelings of a gentleman to undertake, if chosen, as Professor of the Languages—letters and words passed from some to others—and did the omens appear?—but open facts are more decisive than augury.

Soon the Board of Trustees collected at their anniversary meeting, August 24, 1809. There was a ripened understanding between those conspiring in the labour of extermiation. In the Board were two vacancies. It was, early, proposed to supply the vacancy made by the decease of Mr. Oleott, then late Lieutenant-Governor of Vermont. Mr. Dunham, now Secretary of that State,

whose genius, literature, magnanimity and knowledge of the old principles of the seminary, are too well known by the public to be made a question, was brought into view—but his generous attachment, his aversion to the religious violent sectarism, its progressive artful amalgamation with the collegiate concerns, at the expense of the Phillips fund, the union of the leaders to effect, in one combined movement, the by-ends of all were undisguised—another was chosen by a scanty majority, more agreeable to their views.

It was next proposed to fill the vacancy of Dr. Smith in the Board.—The name of William H. Woodward, their secretary, and now chief justice of the western circuit court of the state;—living contiguous, and grown up from childhood in acquaintance with the interest of the College, his talents, his integrity and candor—all these were urged, and that the office of Trustees could not essentially incommod the office of Secretary, as from the example of his highly deserving father, who, for many years, performed the duties of both offices to great public benefit—but he, too, was friendly to the old system, to the president and his friends; he, too, was opposed to the fabriek of heterogeneous materials. On the contrary the person, who had signed his name with others of the Rev. clergy to an address in 1807, to the Board, calculated to aid the sectarian body and interweave it with the interest of the College, containing, also, dark and pointed insinuations and allusions against a *certain character*, without any specific charge, which address had been laid before the state convention of the clergy, to obtain signers, (accompanied, as reported, by a remark, *the President, it is said, is growing too rich and powerful, and it seems necessary to check him*) the same that was afterwards expunged from the files of the Board, as glanced at in the second note:—this man was drawn, by a majority of one, into the Board, prepared with the livery and watchword of the party.

Next, in the series, was an appointment of a Professor in the College. Here the President took a review of the state of religious relations.—He remarked “ that the former Professor, without any inconvenience to his office, had long held the pastoral care of the College church, which, by the divine blessing, had flourished, and literature prosperously advaneing—that the Professor of Theology, after his appointment, declining connexion with the accustomed establishment, entered into connexion and fellowship with a new society, then rising into existence, and had continued his watchful care over *their* concerns.” He added, “ that the College church was, and had always been, in regular standing—that its members wished to be remote from any contention or interference with others, and sighed for peace and repose—that, the pastor removed, they must be scattered and dissolved, unless provided (they being unable) with another, as they always had been.” The Board, said he, “ had given support to the new association in the destiny of

“ the Phillips Professor ; and now the auspicious moment has arrived when by a *word* they could assuage the wounds inflicted, and restore comfort, and preserve the beaten path of all their predecessors, by appointing one to succeed the late Professor of the Languages, who might be, also, of a character to succeed as occasional minister of the church, without interfering, in the least, with his official duties, and without any expense to the College.” One or two were nominated for the purpose ; than whom (exclusive of this innocent and desirable circumstance) none in the estimation of good judges, was more deserving of that office. Those present, in whom was preserved, like the vestal fire, the spirit of the fathers of the institution, impressively spake, and moved to the same effect—to the same, *that man* of patriotic virtues, whose fame will live in other times. But all the effusions of *Hecla* never can dissolve the northern ice. A Professor, by a tried and small majority, was appointed—the one with whom there had been some dealing months before.—Wavering hope was soon extinguished. With decent appearance of moderation, but undeviating steps, he moved as in a path, as if before explored, till arriving at an open provided stand, in the circle of the new religious cause, and the interest of his electors.

The next year the chair of the Professor of Philosophy and Mathematicks became vacant by the death of Mr. Hubbard, and the Professor of the Languages was chosen to fill it. A door for future management was still open. They certainly did not neglect this opportunity of adding a Professor of Languages to their active band, to encrease their strength in establishing a party interest by adding the number of those who depended on their pleasure for an opulent salary.

From indirect hints, there was ground to apprehend, as early as in May, that the man was marked out to be the Professor elect. Some of the Trustees knew nothing about him, and the President had no acquaintance with him, since on the stage of public life. But he was well known to some of that party—in the way of intercourse with the two Professors, and especially in habits of intimacy with one. It remained only to prepare his mind, and form a channel to effect the purpose in a specious manner.

We now arrive at facts the revealers of mystery and messengers of truth. They were brought to our view in a former *note*, but will now appear in some other bearings.

“ *At an annual meeting of the Trustees of Dartmouth College,*
“ *August 29, 1811.*”

After disposing of smaller matters, their attention was called to the election of a Professor, when they assumed an air of deliberation, and one of their number read a letter from a distant clergyman, highly recommending the person whom it was under-

stood had been long selected as their man. A number of the Board, then observed that they were wholly strangers to that gentleman, his genius, taste, and classical literature, that from the circumstances of his occupation and standing, however worthy his character, there arose in their mind *a doubt*—The president remarked that he was ignorant what mental habits and literary treasures the proposed candidate might have *acquired*, through the lapse of many years, that it was important to the welfare of the seminary, he should have ground to place unreserved confidence in his friendly views and co-operation, whoever might be appointed,—a person of enlarged mind, candid, unbiassed in feeling, not devoted to the interest of a particular party or body of men. He therefore took the liberty to mention the same, who had been proposed, on the like occasion, two years before, and for the same reasons, a person who lived in the state, and whose qualifications for the office had not been made a question. Others, with whose opinion this accorded, expressed a wish that should the last nomination not be acceptable, the former might be suspended till the members unacquainted with his character (the event being new to them) could have time to obtain satisfactory evidence, concerning his qualifications. But, no delay—*his recommendations, it was said, is from a high source, the professors think well of him, and one from intimate knowledge.*—Then the Rev. Zephaniah S. Moore was appointed, by ballot, professor of languages.

Through such a train of means, a third professor was secured, and pentioned, to enter into their secret counsels and executive results, and soon to be more fully initiated into their mysteries and tactics by a letter, and visit of one or two disciplinarians of their own corps.

Messrs. Mann and Maek, respected for the qualities of their mind and heart, were friendly to the President. They had been Tutors in the year then closing—the latter was passed unnoticed by the said members of the Board—their class had tendered to them in some books expressions of their gratitude and affection, as had at times, been done, from the earliest period, in relation to tutors, though not to the Professors. Such a mark of attachment happened now for the *first* time to be made a serious question—a hint was probably given to one of these Trustees by some resident in the vicinage.—Early, at a meeting on the 30th, the motion made, it was voted; “that this Board recommend to the “Professors and Tutors of this Institution to accept of no presents “from the students; and that public notice be given to the members of the Institution, at the beginning of the next term, that “none will be expected or received.” Such an evil and bitter thing it was for Tutors to respect the President.

Some matters on hand finished, the importance of electing a *new* Tutor was suggested. Two or three unexceptionable characters were just mentioned by the President.—But, without discussion, *comparitive* views, or a *question*, it was moved and carried for an

adjournment, and to make this the first subject, when convened in the afternoon.—So soon as the members had again met, instead of candid deliberation and inquiry, which formerly had been practised, on such an occasion, the word was given—and the vote passed to proceed, immediately, by ballot, to the election. On examining the ballots the name of Mr. P— was inscribed on five; obscurely *Pierce* written on one, and others on four. The teller, then, observed; he felt a little at a loss to declare whether Mr. P— was appointed or not, as five were for him, and another might intend him, though the slight range of the letters presented some appearance of *Pierce*, the name of no man conceivable to stand as candidate for that office. The *will* was good, but one tool had not been *drilled* long enough, to recollect the *name* of the candidate for whom he meant obsequiously to vote.

This Mr. P— had taken his bachelors degree but two days before, and never an instance had occurred of one in so early a stage, placed in that office. His name had not been mentioned; and how thought of for it, unless to an indirect end? He was young, ardent in attachment, a zealous active partisan of the new body, the pastor, the professors and his electors, in the scheme of overthrow:—add, what was well known, the pointed reflections and eriminations, publicly thrown by him against the president.* When the ballots were opened, a Member expressed his surprise at the matter, and *manner*. He said, that he had long known the Institution, but never seen nor heard till lately of an election, especially under such circumstances, secretly *projected* and *planned*, and *decided*, out of doors, and, voted into an act, by a majority, without a *word*;—he had heard of canvassing among the Jacobins at Paris, and that samples of it had been imported by Irishmen into the United States, but who could believe it would find its way to professed guardians of *Science* and *Religion*, at Dartmouth College! Mr. Burroughs expressed his astonishment and regret at such a mode of transaction. But we cannot neglect an offering to the best interests of mankind by passing unnoticed the reflections of the man, in whom it is difficult to say—whether most to admire the power of his intellect, his integrity, or his candor.

“ Inexpressible is the pain which I feel,” said Governor Gilman, “ that a seminary, built up by the labours and toils of so many years, should be now prostituted, and the hopes of the world blighted. Its most important matters are not now, as in former times, considered and condneted by the *Board*; but appear to be canvassed, shaped and consummated, at private meetings of individuals abroad:—the questions to be solved are not what will tend to the good of the College and public, but what will promote the interest of a sect or party. In the late

* The gentleman referred to is a worthy and deserving character. He was, then, in early age, beset by zealous partizans, and, by varnished tales and misinformations, drawn into the vortex. Time and enquiry have removed the veil; and his reflections, and views, have been honorable to himself, and just to the cause of truth and religion.

" elections, whether of trustees or executive officers, it seems as if the main enquiry has not been, does he possess talents and virtues, whieh will render him publiely useful in office? but, is he opposed to the president? will he join the confederated band to hew him down to the dust? If any one has a charge against him, let it be specified, let it be brought forward, let him be fairly tried; and, if guilty, he ought to be condemned---but, if nothing of this appears, why conduct matters in such a shape, and carry them to such a length?"—Dr. Wheelock then added, if any charge or matter could be alledged against him, he wished and invited it to be brought into view from whatever quarter, or of whatever nature. The votes were withdrawn; another person chosen; but no moral change in the agents.

The Board resolved upon an adjournment. The president's letter connected with the subjects of the two first Notes was before them; and indirect symptoms appeared in the minds of some, as if other matters of interesting magnitude might require attention.

While the machine was playing off such contrivances within, strong whispers (we have seen the text book of their sires and nurses) were circulated without. As the adjourned session approached, dark allusions were dropt by some of the party as if something important, some great event would soon take place.

We pass to the Trustees convened in Oetober. Besides their avowed deelaration of the Philips fund and religious ordinances adverted to in a former part, those same members made an attack, by a new experiment, on the constitution of the College.—Their vote of the 24th will expose the breach to publicie view.

" Resolved, That the executive officers of College be empowered to prohibit the students from trading at, or frequenting any retailer's shop or store, when in the opinion of the majority of such officers, the morals of the students shall be endangered by such intereourse; and, if any student shall be guilty of a violation of such prohibition, he shall be either privately, or publiely, admonished, suspended, or expelled, according to the nature and aggravation of the offence."

In calling the question of passing the above resolution, the yeas and nays were taken, at the request of Mr. Gilman; and the usual disciplined majority were found in the affirmative. The minority entered their protest as follows:

" The subscribers having given their votes against the foregoing resolutions, assign the following reasons therefor, which they request may be inserted on the records:"

" Althongh they are in sentiment with those, who voted in favor of the resolution, as to the orders therein contained---yet, they dissent, because of a change in the phraseology; namely, the words "Executive Officers of College" are used instead of the words "Executive Authority," which last terms have been heretofore used—and, more especially, as it has been avowed

“ by one or more members of the Board, that this change in the
 “ phraseology is intended to convey an opinion that decisions on
 “ such like regulations should be made by a simple majority of
 “ the whole number of officers present, including the president,
 “ professors and tutors; not allowing to the president, in such
 “ cases, any more authority, than to any other individual officer
 “ of College. ”

“ EDEN BURROUGHS,
 “ STEPHEN JACQB,
 “ J. T. GILMAN.”

Turning to the charter of the College, we find the boundaries of power clearly defined. The clauses are express, 1st, That the president *have the care of the education and government of the students*—and 2ndly, That the trustees *appoint as many tutors and professors to assist the president, in the education and government of the students, as they may think needful and serviceable*.

No room, here, for dialectic refinement:—the impropriety of the foregoing act is at once exposed in the light of these fundamental prescripts. What! was it not enough for these members to be engaged in the deplorable work of extirpating religious and economical establishments; ancient and venerable usages? and could they proceed to lay hold on the shrine of the charter? to disorganize the constitution? to new-model the executive system?

It was remarked before the Board, that, besides impropriety in the construction of the act, there could be no possible *occasion* for it, as there never had been any difficulty from such a source, never had the president acted without the concurrence of the majority. It was an invariable habit; and any one was challenged to produce an instance to the contrary. The authors of the act were then asked, what could be their motive or reason—whether the president was deficient in capacity, or in any respect chargeable, in his official or moral conduct. They were entreated to bring forward any thing they pleased or could assign as a reason. As they omitted to do it in words, we take the liberty to do it from their practice, a dialect, which never deceives.—They have been traced, combining with others, aiming in their movements at one end, selecting and filling vacancies with those instructed in their mysteries, and ready for their battles—they began now, to calculate on a possible majority in the executive department to coöperate with them, which might turn the internal bearings of the seminary to their views—they could naturally suppose matters might be introduced by their confederates, being a majority, at the meeting of the officers, in which the president would not accord. Hence collisions, and in the result the president would become unpopular, and they find a favourable conjuncture to condemn him. There was an appearance of such a design even at this session. One of their number lamented that there was not harmony among the executive officers. Another of them rejoined

that the want of harmony would endanger the Institution—then, directing his speech to the president, in a moving attitude, his arm extended with a menacing tone, he declared, that *unless the difficulties were settled between him and the professors he or one of them should be removed; and it would not be hard to determine which.* Thus they made the pile, bound the victim, and set fire to the fagots, and then insulted him, as author of the conflagration.

If any thing further were necessary to unveil their design, and their assumption of power to controul the rights of charter, we might bring into view their appointment of “a committee to ascertain the constitutional powers of the president, professors, and tutors, respectively;”—which committee was dismissed, after the foregoing act was passed, Our eyes are drawn from that to behold an extension of their devastating principles.

October 25, “Mr. Niles moved that it be voted that the professors of the medical department shall not be considered as executive officers, except in the government of the medical students”—“which, being seconded:”—“Voted, that the consideration thereof be postponed to the next session.”

Though no ultimate resolve was taken upon the above proposal yet its enrolment, with attending circumstances, in the records of the College, will show, to future times, the unauthorized estimate which the mover and his associates stamped on their own right and power. If the charter is to be held in any respect, there can be no ground for a question; for it has constituted the power of all the professors, clearly and definitely, equal and co-extensive. Such, of course, had been always the practice, and of the medical professors, too, thirteen years, from their first appointment. What motive, then, to an infraction of this nature, and at this time? A solution of this singular problem is ready. The medical professors, and it was well known to them, were not so well pleased with their heated visionary conceptions, forming an assemblage of religious party and collegiate interests in their theory—they were not so well fitted to the work, as tools made for the purpose—they preferred old tried principles and institutions to the projects of devastation and persecution.

That philanthropist, that eminent and indefatigable professional, the founder of the medical establishment, the friend, the cooperator, and adventurer with Dr. Wheelock, through trying and adverse scenes, in advancing the seminary, that man, Dr. Nathan Smith, had long beheld with anxiety and regret the increasing influence of one in the Board, well known by his restless and disorganizing habits—a gradual accession of members artfully introduced to enlist in his cause—a party of Trustees, instead of impartial fathers and tender guardians of the ark handed down to them in trust, uniting with their votes and funds to support the cause of another party; the two amalgamating to form a common interest---these members of the Board indissolubly combined and

thus fortified, proceeding cautiously to fill all vacancies in their own body, and executive department, with only such officers as were devoted to their views and final end, the destruction of every vestige of the former establishment, and erecting another of their own creed, and dogmas, and usages. Such were the reflections of Dr. Smith, added to an alliance, which he considered as uncomfortable with the new officers.

Hence he began to indulge the idea of resigning—he undulated and waited, hoping for some possible change, and better times. Long was his mind struggling between the importunity of his friends, and the causes of its oppression.—But he beheld the torrent increasing and threatening, in its issue, to lay waste the fruits of his labours, and his hopes, despairing of any alteration, he at length resigned, left the place, and formed a new connexion with the medical faculty at New-Haven. However lightly some may speak of his motives ; certainly a weighty consideration must have induced him, against the conflicts of powerful feelings and attachment, to leave the child of his hope, which he had brought into the world, and, by persevering toils of years, had raised from the cradle to a promising state. The cause is to be sought for near home, those Trustees will find it in their innovations, their imposing measures and the results—Yes ; here we shall find the cause, that drove this benefactor, and luminary, from the Institution. And what returns to him for all his eminent services ? Can there not be found in the records even a single testimony of grateful remembrance ? But in its stead there is to be seen a vote of the majority, at their session in October 1814, accepting his resignation and charging him as having been neglectful of his duty.

That the writer of these sheets has not been influenced by imaginary conceptions of the views and motives of those members of the Board, as naturally inferred from their own resolutions and proceedings faithfully copied and stated above, he will take the liberty to present some extracts of a letter to the same effect. It bears date October 21, 1811, written by a character unconnected with the Institution, a christian, a man high in science and political rank, to a Trustee of the league, before the meeting just mentioned. On comparing his remarks with their resolutions, we admire in the language of Burke, on another occasion, with what prophetic eye he discerned their spirit and proceedings.

—“ I shall take it for granted, that the reputation of Dartmouth College has been, for several years past, by some means or other, declining. What is the cause ? Is there not something rotten in Denmark ? And are the measures pursued by the corporation likely to remove the difficulties that exist.”

“ A schism it seems has happened.”—“ Whence has it arisen ?” “ Is the fault with the President ?”—“ Has he usurped any powers ? Does he exercise more than is allowed by charter ? Has he abused any powers ?—Is he unfaithful to his trust ? Does

“ he imbue the minds of his pupils with unchristian, or heterodox principles ;—If any of these things are true, let the charges be substantiated ; let him be openly convicted, and fairly removed. If not ; then have you not some reason to believe, that, for indirect purposes, a *hue and cry* has been raised against him ? and will not these charges, on a full and candid investigation dwindle to a *bugbear* ?”

“ Let me ask you a few questions. Is there not a *dark spirit* in your Board, which is actuated by sinister motives ; which cautiously shuns the light ; and, yet, which actively, and insidiously, and powerfully operating, subjects some of its members, unawares, to its deleterious influence ; and makes them the dupes of a miserable intrigue. On what other principle can you account for the recent proceedings in the choice of a tutor —How should it happen that six out of ten should unite in — without his being previously named to the Board ? Was it the effect of accident or design ? Not the former certainly : as well might you say, that accident produced a world.”—“ Indeed I have no hesitation in saying, that instead of honest wisdom, it must have been the result of wicked design.”—“ And sir, the circumstances will ever carry to an impartial world, so far as they are known, *prima facie* evidence of this truth :—especially when it comes to be known, that — was literally a graduate of yesterday ; that he had taken a leading and active part in the College difficulties, siding with S— against the president. Nay, who was openly so implacable in his hostility to the latter, as to have intemperately declared, that he would never accept a *diploma*, if it must bear on its margin the name of *Wheelock*. I would not insinuate ought against the honour or honesty of this respectable Board—but I do say, that under such circumstances, these sir or some of them, at least, must have been wittingly the authors, or unwittingly the dupes of a most miserable and shameful intrigue.”

“ Where did it originate ?”—“ It originated in an unreasonable and implacable hostility to president *Wheelock* ; and good old father N—s was its author.”—

“ Hence the cry of want of orthodoxy ; too much power, &c. Hence the schism in the church and society. Hence the establishment of S— upon that schism—hence the division among the officers of College—hence the attempt, in every new appointment, to strengthen the opposition—hence the spirit of party—which is now raging in the College—hence, possibly attempts to invade the charter rights and usages of the Institution.”

“ Do not, do not murder the president by inches. Either impeach ; convict ; and remove him, (it is your duty, if he is guilty) or support him in his rightful authority. You will never be able (you and I know it) to elbow him out of his chair. He is made of the wrong stuff for that. No, sir, he will hold

“ it out ; and if necessary die in the last ditch—consider that
“ Dartmouth College was a child of his father, and his own life
“ has been engrafted on it—he has devoted to that Institution a
“ life of more industry, and of less repose, than is to be found in
“ that of any other man, perhaps, in New-England. You and I
“ know it well. Has not his whole heart and soul been wrapt
“ up in its prospects ; in its utility ; in its prosperity. Is it not
“ a child of his last fond hopes and affection ? and is it not also,
“ heir apparent to one moiety, at least, of his whole worldly es-
“ tate ? Who, else can better manage its affairs ? Or, who,
“ else, as president of the College, will merit more from the pub-
“ lic, or do more for the cause of science and religion ?”

"Think and ponder well on these things. Examine, and weigh your reasons, before you act; before you take any important steps which you may possibly find fatal to the interests of the University, when it shall be too late to retrace your steps, or to remedy the evil."

I will now, with the same liberty, turn to the answer, dated December 9th, 1814, and take the extracts more emphatically relevant to the object. They assign the reasons of the six, the novitiate and their associates, and lead us to guess at their spirit.

" I sincerely lament with you the difficulties which have disturbed the College, during a few years; and which in my opinion threaten its downfall; but I perceive, by the spirit of your letter, we should differ in opinion respecting the cause of these evils."—" I did hope, sir, that you had a better opinion of such men as . . . , . . . , . . . and than to suppose them capable of being the dupes of any such intrigue as you suppose."—

“ I do believe there is not a man in the Board of Trustees,
“ who wishes for the removal of the president; or that wishes to
“ annoy him, provided he will go on in the execuation of his officiai
“ duties without throwing embarrassments in the way of others.
“ The late acts of the Board prove they wish to support him;
“ for they have associated with him such men as could afford
“ him the most efficient aid in the instrnction and government of
“ the Institution”—“ I will, therefore, with much readiness,
“ give you my opinion of the real causes of these evils, which
“ we both lament. The cause is this; whenever you bring any
“ man of an independant mind in contact with the president, there
“ will be clashing.”—

"Respecting the ease of —, I do not hesitate to say he was talked of among a number of the Trustees as a suitable person for a tutor. It was not a matter of design; but merely an oversight, that he was not nominated; and none of us, who had conversed together, had a thought of his being so offensive to

“ the president. When we saw that the president was disturbed, we immediately gave up our candidate.

“ Thus I have been plain in the statement of my opinion. Such is my view of the real cause of those difficulties. I am willing to tell the president, himself, that I firmly believe a determination in him to be the ‘*omnis homo*’ of that College is the cause of these lamentable troubles. He has been told that he has proclaimed a war of extermination; and that nothing will satisfy him, but the removal of every man, who may ever turn to express and maintain opinions of their own.”

The Greekian cannot be concealed in Trojan armour. To this very letter we appeal for subsidiary evidence of what has been declared:—through its shaded texture the truth is discovered to a discerning eye. The interested author has justly limited the *duration of the difficulties* to *a few years*, fully implying as has been abundantly shown, that till then, the reign of peace had extended down—yes there had been harmony near thirty years between the officers and the president, and the Board and the president. Never did they treat him as an alien, nor persecute him, nor charge him with assumption: for he felt himself their faithful servant, devoted to their interest: and without jealousies, surmises, and detractions, they cordially encouraged his labours. It was through the grace of God by such confidential feelings, and undissembled co-operations, (we repeat it, for we dwell on those times with mournful joy) that the Institution was raised from the dust to its eminent height, and scarcely a year which was not marked by some distinguished acquisition to its advantage.

But how was the scene changed within “*those few years*,” after the difficulties commenced! And how did they commence? not by any neglect of duty, or breach of trust in the executive officers; but by a party that rose up against them and the religious institution in the College. By a member of the board, who by secret management, by direct and indirect means drew others into his interest combined with that of the party—by their applying the Phillips fund, and patronizing the professor of theology to build up that party—and in return for their strict fidelity, sacrificing to it the rights and privileges, and comforts of the officers, and the ancient establishment. Those trustees still went on to extend their alliance to particular ministers of the gospel, and other individuals, who were attached to the cause of these partisans, and gradually blended with it the influences, the interest, and the character of the seminary. They united in their plan the idea of an entire change in its former principles and order, and received, in their turn, countenance and support from allies whom they were favouring. To promote this end they concerted their suffrages only in such men to fill the vacancies of the Board and executive department, as embraced their creed, and understood their signs, and manœuvres, but especially emblued with

jealousy and hatred to the president, and friends of the former system.

It is needless to repeat what is contained in the preceding sheets —Whoever you are, sir that wrote this letter, read them ; they are the history of facts and truth ;—yon will find them emblazoned by the recorded resolves of your associates in the Board. Can you realize, as you seem to suppose, that men, eminent in the public confidence, can do no wrong, or that wrong measures may be sheltered under the splendour of their name, or receive another nature from their reputation. Did the concells do right, who persecuted Athanasius into the wilderness and into caves ? or the council which banished Chrysostom to the inhospitable region of the Caspian ? Or the council that sentenced John Huss to the stake ? Or, finally, that which interdicted Martin Luther ? But all these councells, in succession, were thought in their days especially, by their own parties, to consist of very honourable and respectable characters. You do not think your partners could be duped by N—s. But mark the fact—there is plentiful evidence ; the very plan that he was author of, and *at first* stood *alone* in, they have since been zealously execenting—he brought the galley to the point and they were, after, tugging at the oars with him. Whatever you may say of the charge, please to cast your eye a little back, on the diagnostic in a vote, which seems to show that he still stands pretty high in your list.

Can it, sir, be believed, *they* never stoop to *intrigue* ? Turn only to the case of the tutor. Your own acknowledgment that the fraternity *consulted* and *agreed* together, on a person, apart from the Board, and without *nomination* proceeded to act, gives the shape of the animal---but add its true appendages and natural color ; and then what will you call the *monster* ?

Your letter expresses their wishes to support the president, as they *had associated with him men, who could afford him most efficient aid.** I have nothing to say of the professors, but that they might be useful in *elements* to which their minds and tempers are adapted. But we have seen *how* they have been elected, and to what *end*. Was it to be expected that they would forget those, who had elected them, and given them their importance ? Was it to be expected that they would thwart those very projects for which they had been selected ? Did any man conceive that they would comfort and assist the President ? This would be expecting too much of human nature. With strong forebodings of these evils at an early period, he wrote a letter to one, soon after his appointment, dictated by that frank disposition and benevolent wishes, which might tend to produce accommodating habits. But, what is an affectionate address more than a bulrush to stop the

* Was it to support the president, that Mr. P... an inveterate enemy of the president, was voted for as tutor, doubtless by the recommendation of the professors or of *one* of them ? and that persons were appointed to whom he objected ?

ocean, against feelings attuned and disciplined to the passion of a league?

It is insinuated, that the President makes difficulties, and clogs the wheels.—Did not those compeers in the Board calculate and expect, as the consequence of their devices, and train of matches, that he would startle when scorched, and rise in opposition; and, thus, give ground of complaint, and, then, they might proceed to a decisive step against him? And have they not, in a formal manner, on motion of Mr. N—s, called their professors before the Board, and enquired, if they knew of any instance of failure or impropriety in the discharge of his duties? The nugatory result is well known.*—Long he discerned the ordeal of heated ploughshares, and directed his course with cautious steps. Repeatedly did he intreat the Board and individual members, or any others, to tell him in what he had done amiss—to bring forward any charge against him whatever, whether defect in capacity, or science, or in religious principles, or neglect or abuse of his trust, or any immoral or dishonourable action as a man. If there were reports (and that there were, and black ones too)—why did they not bring the reporters forward? and why did these not appear, as desired, with their proofs?

To these importunities they had no reasonable reply, and we challenge the whole band, Trustees and companions, of the new model—to produce an instance of usurpation, or want of strict fidelity in conforming to their laws, and discharging his duties. We believe he possesses too much elevation of mind to be delighted with animosities and contentions, that quagmire of vermin. If firmly to retain the religion of his fathers, consecrated by divine revelation;—of *peace and good will to all men*; if to retain principles sanctioned by the experience of ages; to be inviolably attached to the original establishment and design of the seminary, may be called contention, then is he contentious. If, when individuals of a corporation, formed into a corps, to promote an interest apart from their trust, they apply the funds, not according to the well known will of donors; when they enter into ties of close connexion with a religious party, set upon no regular principles of former usage, and hostile to the old establishment, erected in and for the benefit of the College, and recognised as in good standing; when they withdrew from it the means of its existence, (and which the Board had always considered as intrusted with them to afford) to support a recent establishment of their new friends; when they wrest from the officers, with their families, and associates, their religious rights and privileges, and, in the unavoidable result of their measures, assign them in chains to the wheels of the car of their new made chiefs; when in their revolutionary career for their own purpose and that of their sect, they violate the charter, appoint ministers, and practice secret

* Their disclosures amounted only to ridiculous tell tales.

methods, and open violence to clear every remaining obstacle from their path; if after this a sigh or a groan is a mark of contention, then is he contentious. What sensations may be excited even by a respectful petition and submissive proposal may be seen by his address to them, and their resolutions, at the end of these sheets.



**THE INSTRUCTION AND GOVERNMENT FROM
THE YEAR 1811, TO THE YEAR 1815.**

DURING the events, which occupied our last attention, and not long after the adjourned meeting of the Trustees, Mr. Moore with his family arrived at the college (his communications confined to those interested in his appointment) and took his station with the other two professors. We may form some idea of his duties by the vote of the Board, at their preceding annual session, when he was elected.

“ August 30, 1811. Resolved, that it shall, among other things, be the duty of the professor of languages, elect, if he shall accept the appointment, to hear recitations in the learned languages, according to such arrangements as are or shall be made by the executive authority; that he shall deliver lectures on the languages to the students once, in four weeks, during the year ensuing; and, after that time, as often as the Trustees shall direct.”

Of instructors in the College, distinct from the medical department, there were, then, and the same number has been since continued by the Trustees, besides the president, three professors, and two tutors. The president, in addition to his attention to the religious and other exercises in the chapel and the general regulations that devolved on him, always had and continued to have the particular care of the instruction of the senior class; the two tutors, as was expected and had been the usage, one instructing a class, had the care of the sophomore and freshman classes; it remained that provision be made only for the junior class, and the talents of two professors be employed.

On a former occasion, we took notice of the duties and services of the professor of theology. In the short periods of former times, when there had been two tutors, Dr. Smith, professor of languages,

In addition to ordinary classical services, instructed in Hebrew ; and Mr. Hubbard, professor of mathematics and philosophy, devoted part of his attention, and delivered a number of public lectures. His successor, on coming into office, contemplated the same object; but there were causes to produce a postponement; the necessity of some time to prepare, of some new books, and some philosophical instruments : An important part of the two latter were received above *a year ago*; but, perhaps, more of these are still desirable, and more also of the first. The new professor of the languages, likewise, according to the order of the Board, proposed to enter on a course of public lectures ; but he wanted, first, to attend to some preparatory studies, and to obtain an acquaintance with the Hebrew dialect. The instruction of the junior class is but little more arduous, if any, than the labour assigned to either of the tutors, especially of the sophomore class; the literary attention of the two professors was chiefly confined to the first, each with a salary above those of both the tutors. Not a lecture has been delivered by either of these professors, the majority of the Board acquiescing with their vote at rest.

But other duties and other purposes in the mean time were intended by their appointment. These have, in part, appeared in surveying the plan of operations, and the machinery employed ; more will be revealed, as we extend our view down the annals of truth.

Instruction was quietly conducted, in the above manner, till a short time before the meeting of the Board, in August, 1813.—A private hint was then dropt by one (not less than a professor) in close affinity with the source of action, that a motion would be made to alleviate the burden of the president by transferring the recitations of his class to the professors. Nothing on the subject though strongly expected, was brought into public view, while the trustees were in session---nothing suggested to him by any of them—but after they rose, a slip, left perhaps through mistake, was accidentally noticed among the fragments of their papers, on the table, with this inscription :

“ Resolved, that the president shall be relieved from his long supported labour of attending to the recitations of the senior class ; and that this duty shall devolve on the professors for the time being ; and that the president be requested to examine the senior class, occasionally, at his discretion, in the subjects of their studies.” It appeared, to those acquainted, the hand writing of Mr. N---s, and carries its own evidence.

As before, all things afterwards, remained in silence ; and thus, the internal state, and disposal of the classes, continued invariable until the adjourned meeting of the Board, in November, 1814.---Then convened those trustees, with minds harmoniously marshalled, by the experiments and address of four years, in the system of occult management. For evidence, we can only as before, appeal to *votes and facts*, which will be brought into view.

We ought to rejoice that the three Professors, in easy circumstances, are proprietors of buildings for the accommodations of their families and friends. To their houses conveniently near to each other, these confidential associates have repaired, in appropriate assignments, for the hospitalities of domestic abode and intercourse, during the late sessions—There these strangers to the more important interests of the seminary could receive information from their ministers and dependants (whose short acquaintance and knowledge of it has been confined to their classical *routine*) of the practical state and present aspect of their plans:—and there, in their secret laboratories they could mingle suggestions, and form projects. We will lay open the facts.

*“ At an annual meeting of the Trustees of Dartmouth College
“ August 22, 1814, and holden by adjournment on the 8th day of
“ November following :*

“ PRESENT

“ JOHN WHEELOCK, Pres’t.
“ STEPHEN JACOB,
“ TIMOTHY FARRAR,
“ ELIJAH PAINE,
“ CHARLES MARSH,
“ ASA McFARLAND,
“ JOHN SMITH,
“ SETH PAYSON.*

On the eleventh of said November, the last day of their session, the members convened, the regular business before them finished, and the Board as if on the wing to rise, when Mr. Marsh came forward with a paper.†—He expressed a hope that the President would take no exceptions, the object being only to lighten the pressure of his long and arduous labours, from which he ought to be relieved—then added, that he had in his hand the form of a resolution, and hoped it might be adopted.—He read it, as follows:—

“ Whereas, the duties of the President of this university have become very multiplied and arduous; and, whereas, it is necessary, that he should continue to attend to the concerns of this Institution, and the various officers and departments thereof; and should have time to prepare and lay before this Board the business, to which its attention should be directed;”

“ Therefore, resolved, that, in order to relieve the President from some portion of the burdens, which unavoidably devolve

* Dr. P—— is an honest man. He had been nominated two years before by one of the old friends of the College in the Board; but it was then strenuously opposed by one of the majority living in his vicinity. The mind of the former was not then known or prepared; but in August 1813, he was strenuously, as in the reverse before, recommended by the latter and was elected by his party to be a member. From its leaders he has received all his information, and they have been careful to secure his prejudices and attachment as of others whom they elect.

† Mr. N—— was detained in body; but his spirit was with the artizans of the structure, whose foundation stone he had laid.

" on him, that in future he be excused from hearing the recitations of the senior class in Locke, Edwards, Stewart."

" Resolved, that the professors Shurtliff and Moore, jointly supply the pulpit, in such manner as may be agreed between them."—"That professor Shurtliff hear the recitation of the senior class in Edwards on the Will;" "That professor Adams hear the recitation of the senior class in Loeke, on the Human Understanding;" "That professor Moore hear the recitation of the senior class in Stewart's philosophy of the mind; and that he hear them recite in both volumes of that work."

Not a word said, but a motion soon made and seconded to pass it. The president then wished to remark, if not out of order, that the matter was interesting to the seminary, and to him; that it was new, as it had never been brought into any inquiry or discussion in the Board, nor had he ever been consulted with, nor even an idea intimated to him on the subject by any individual of the trustees or officers; that intellectual philosophy was a favorite pursuit, and with delight, from the first of his office, had he heard the senior class in this branch of science; that scarcely had he ever omitted a single exercise, never unless impeded by sickness, or called away to obtain support for the institution; and never had he heard of the least complaint or dissatisfaction from the Board, or from any individual of the thirty-five classes whom he had taught, or from any others. Mr. Jacob, to whom the subject was also wholly new and unexpected, opposed the motion: and one of their own number faintly proposed; whether, as the president said he had no knowledge of the thing before, they would not judge it better to put it over to the next meeting? But no reply, no remark—the object seemed familiar to them, and their minds organically attuned to the work. The vote was called, and passed. The class were, thus suddenly, taken from the instruction of the president, in the midst of an intricate chapter of metaphysics, and consigned over, in their next recitation, to a professor; who had never expressed much love or devotedness to that branch; and perhaps, never reviewed the author since he was graduated.

The president, considering the peculiarity of the resolution and its circumstances, proposed, if it might not be deemed improper, to ask, What could induce the trustees to a measure, so novel and surprising? No reply made—he renewed his desire; adding, that conscious of the most scrupulous and cheerful, and he had hoped successful fidelity, he had no conception of the cause, and was bewildered in the business. Mr. Marsh, (who seemed the organ of those members in the whole affair) at length made answer; that it was a very delicate matter, and they did not wish to hurt his feelings—but he would venture to mention a thing as a great secret; and wished it might be so considered and kept—he understood the class were dissatisfied with the instructions. The president asked, in what respects? and, whether any. and

who had ever expressed it? Mr. M— gave no solution of the last—and his answer seemed rather indefinite to the first; it implied as if some points were not explained with sufficient minuteness; and then went on, and inquired how much in Edwards on the Will, had occupied each recitation? He was answered, that as there was a great difference between the different parts of this author, in abstruseness and simplicity of reasoning, so the difference was proportionate in the number of pages for each recitation—from fifteen to twenty, large type, in his more abstract chapters—that much explanation and discussion was necessary to give the students just and clear ideas, and in guarding against fatalism on the one hand and independence on the other—that the students had always been invited, and freely indulged, in asking any question, or proposing any doubt for solution, on whatever point they desired—and that more time had, in general, been spent at their recitations than at those of the other classes. He was persnaded that the insinuations were unfounded; and lamented that, instead of ushering abruptly, the whole matter into, and striking the blow, in the last instant, the very heal of the session, the authors of the resolve, or some one of them, had not given only a few hours notice of the object, and then the truth could have appeared. He felt that the class could not but be, in general, satisfied, except some solitary individuals, whose minds had been worked over and drawn, by some confederated leader and dark agent, meerly for a handle to subserve the base party purpose of cruelty.

The president proceeded—It is publicly known, that those professors were appointed for instruction in particular branches, and accordingly to deliver periodical lectures. It is publicly known, what they have done, and that they never have delivered a single lecture in philosophy or the languages, as ordered. Why have you not seen to the discharge of duties which *you ordered* to be performed? Why have you, habitually, suffered these to be wholly neglected; and have continued to pay the public monies to the officers, the same as if the services had been rendered? Why, now, like the unexpected explosion of a *volcano*, suddenly derange the literary order of the institution? Why, now, wrest the instruction of intellectual philosophy from the hands of him who had always attended to it, and made it a particular object of pursuit? Why violently cut this science into piece-meals, all to be taught to the same class, a part by him designated professor of mathematics and philosophy; a second part by him denominated Phillips professor of *theology*; a third part by him stiled professor of the languages: men, as supposed by the model of their minds, their former habits of attention, and their professorial appointments, who did not calculate for an inscription of fame in that science on their monuments? He had conceived, that while he was fit to take the care of the instruction and government, with the assistance of the tutors and professors, he had a right even by

charter to teach in the present state of things, and unless good reasons to the contrary be shown, this branch in which he had always instructed. The only remark in return was by Mr. Marsh—“If you do go on contrary to the resolution of the Board, you will take the responsibility on yourself.” The president added no more; but, that he saw the object at which they aimed, and that he was prepared for any thing they should chuse to do. Mr. Marsh then moved, whether it were not expedient to appoint some person, in case the President should resign or die before their next meeting, to take his place. Professor Shurcliff was named. The President then enquired whether they had determined to throw the charter wholly aside, which had made the most ample and explicit provision in such a case. Mr. Marsh then hesitated, queried, looked at the charter book, and was silent.

The account of the foregoing extraordinary votes, facts and circumstances, necessarily conduct to the following remarks, and justify the inferences that will arise.

1. Bring now in a range before our eyes the secret communication made, as before noticed, by one of those professors, of an intended attempt to change the instruction of the senior class!—the vote soon after, in August 1813, discovered among the loose papers of the trustees at their meeting!—the resolution in November 1814, just exhibited! all to the same effect. Consider the intimate and domiciliary connexion between those trustees and their three professors, the partition of the instructions of the three authors between them, the introduction of the second volume of Stewart, and the arrangement for the pulpit, which never could have been made without consulting the ideas and feelings of these professors, if it be not more easy to suppose the plan first suggested by them, or one of them, to their legislative associates, prepared, in concert, to enforce it by a deadly fiat. See the creature bursting from darkness into light— an evil spirit, with hideous features, led by its parents from their murky cavern into the Board, to receive its mark in their own vote, and then let loose! Can such a transaction have a place but in the chain of plots and intrigues to subserve the sinister purposes of a party, at the expense of the purest moral and literary interest of man? And what is a Board or corporation when deliberation is banished, and it becomes a mere organ to the resolves of individuals in retired meetings?

2. If the charter of the College is any thing more than a dead letter; if the rights of the President, enrolled in it, are of any account; if he is faithful, and has not justly forfeited a title to the office; on what principle were the Trustees authorized to interdict his instructions of the students? to introduce new authors, and new arrangements in their exercises, without the pretence of a reason, without the least notice, without even offering an opportunity for the suggestion of his views or opinion on the subject? It cannot be marked by a better name than *usurpation* when a

body of men exercise their power beyond the limits prescribed by the grant of the sovereign ;—nor by a better name than *oppression*, when they deprive ministers of the rights of office, to which they are entitled. And the body, which make their charter a convenience for their own protection, and for private and party purposes, abandon the design of their Institution, to become injurious to the public good. But can the Trustees add to disrespect, to the boundaries of their power, a disregard to the claims of humanity ? For what cause have a number of them associated in arms to afflict and destroy the President ? For what, under the semblance of friendship are reproaches heaped on him, who has spent his life for the Institution, in study and toils, who resuscitated the College and School from ruins, and obtained by his own exertions and solicitations that wealth, those resources now employed by them to convert those venerable establishments of religion and science into the machines of a plodding party. Look, where you will on the internal or external existence of the seminary and you see the effects of his past labours :—and now he is led a victim in silence, that the public repose be not disturbed, and offered on their altar, d'Enghein in the grove, Pichegreu in the prison ! But we have a word more to say.

The following statement shows the unrelenting spirit of the men.

On his first arrival at College Professor Moore received, an invitation from the College church, *destitute, shattered, and oppressed* by the acts and measures already recorded, and from a great portion of the citizens in the district, holders of more than half the property, and attached to the old religious order of things. It expressed their earnest wishes, that he would consent to take some pastoral care for them, not in any way interfering with his official concerns, nor with Mr. Shurtliff and those under his charge. After this application he and another Professor with him, it was said, made a visit to their particular friend, at Woodstock. Returning from that place he soon wrote an answer with expressions of his good will for the success of their church, but an absolute negative to their desire—and proceeded immediately, and joined in communion, with the professorial pastor and his party. The new professor, however, stood in occasional readiness, and supplied vacancies, during the three years ; but holding himself in reserve, at the call of his patrons, to promote their end. Matters, in the progress of operations, at length prepared, they have associated him colleague with their former incumbent, in the pulpit ; who proclaimed the same publickly, and that, it would in future be expected, the ordinary parochial fees be equally divided between them.—Who was the officious agent of this resolution ? Was private advice given, three years before from the same source, leading to the same exterminating effect ? Thus the President's proposal which if it had been accepted might have restored peace to the college, was rejected. This is not the first time, that by a single act, they might have ended all dis-

putes. However those men, imbodied in designs and practices, may profess an impartial regard to the cause of religion, justice and literature, we have only to recur to the tenor of their votes and *proceedings* to find the truth. Such a history will tell no lies. It shows by the records of the former pages with what obstinate zeal they have supported a schism, and nurtured it to become the common cause of a sect or party.—It shows how they have distinguished themselves among its leaders by attempts to convert this seminary into a theatre for their triumphs—how to subserve the purpose of their ambition they have proceeded to undermine its establishments and demolish its principles, to transform its moral and its literary order—how they have battered down the bulwark of the charter, and set up their own despotism and new modelled the form of government: Yes, they have, without any cause, destroyed the constitutional rights of the presidential office, and invested them in others. To the proofs already brought of this, I add that act, passed in their late meeting, more explicit than the one before noticed, in 1811. It refers to those holding entertainments or treats, the penalty to be inflicted “at the discretion of *a majority of the executive officers.*” The matter of the law is good, and it ever had been strictly and harmoniously executed. Why then this arbitrary transfer of rightful trust? The reader finds a clue in the record of facts to solve the problem.*

We leave their arrangements of instruction and government, and will turn our eyes on the property in their hands.

V. *OF THE PROPERTY AND EXPENDITURES OF
THE COLLEGE FROM THE YEAR 1809
TO THE YEAR 1815.*

IT has been made manifest how the College, by the kind providence of God, was revived from its expiring state in 1769—how it was raised up to flourish in its number, and in its internal state—how its oppressive debts were all discharged—and how it became possessed of buildings, estates, funds, and means of improvement, until the consumation of the whole in the close of the year 1808. It was then the proprietor of upwards of *forty thousand* acres of wild land and many thousands, besides, yielding annual rents, and bonds and notes on interest of a considerable amount for former tuition, in the treasury.

Since that period, it has received no grant, no donation, no

* Some of the most distinguished authors of those insidious, disorganizing acts live in the State of Vermont.

gratuitous endowment of any consequence. Its interests have been palsied; and we have seen the melancholy causes. Of the then amount of its annual incomes, we may form an idea from a statement of the treasurer for the last year.

“ From rents on leases of lands,	\$1338 28
“ Rents of rooms and accommodations to students,	507 52
“ Tuition to students at 5 25 cts. to each student per quarter	} 2940 00
“ Other items amounting to	235 00
	<hr/> \$5040 80”

At the former time there was a considerable increasing amount in the treasury above the annual demand of payments. But, since, by the measures, and applications of that ruling party, in the board, the annual incomes have been nearly exhausted. With what *economy* and *propriety* the expenditures have been made, the result of facts will exhibit.

“ *At an annual meeting of the Board of Trustees at Dartmouth College, August 23d, 1810.*

“ Voted, that the Professors of Divinity, Mathematics and Philosophy, and the Languages, in future receive each a salary of six hundred dollars a year, instead of five hundred dollars as heretofore established.”

At the very next meeting of the Trustees, August 29th, 1811, and on the day when they had elected Mr. Moore, the following resolve was passed by them—

“ Voted that the Treasurer be directed to pay to the Professors of Divinity, and Mathematics and Philosophy, the sum of one hundred dollars, each, for their services the year past, in addition to their salary of six hundred dollars each.” Besides the perquisites, in the use of lands annexed to their respective offices, yielding about sixty or seventy dollars per annum. It was expected that the same would be afterwards continued, and was presented, among the motives to the professor of the languages, that it should also extend to him. Those three professors have accordingly since received that allowance.

It has appeared, what the services of the professor of theology were, in former times, and which have continued the same, except that the last year, he delivered near one lecture a fortnight—it has been equally manifest what the services of the two other professors were during the three last years. If now in the result of a comparison, conviction should arise (and it gains strength by inquiry) that the whole of the labours of the three professors have not, at most, exceeded in quantity or quality, what had been before cheerfully performed by two professors, the unavoidable inference must be an unprofitable expenditure of the public mon-

ney. Seven hundred and sixty dollars, the salary and perquisites of one professor, and annexed to it the special allowance of two hundred dollars to the others, making nine hundred and sixty dollars annually which might have been saved. This ought to have been devoted to the support of an establishment, yielding *a new accession* of intellectual wealth to the students:—Or it ought not to have been received (under the illusive show of advantages embellished with professorial titles) from the parents or guardians of the students; for chiefly on *tuition* do the trustees depend to remunerate instruction; and never can they in justice draw from that source for services which experience has proved are not equivalent. Nor is the evil removed by a few recitations added to the labour of the professors, which the trustees braving the rights of charter, abruptly and violently wrested from the president, and assigned to them. But those gentle duties, and grants, and assortments, made by the contrivance and overbearing force of a *corps* in the Board, they no doubt considered as important means to promote their own end; no doubt the *recipients* were gratified; no doubt they have made returns, estimated as answerable to the hopes; and valuable as the courtesy of their patrons and party.

It would be useless to retrace the origin and fate of the Phillips fund, but not irrelevant here to recollect that in the year 1804 its annual amount by leases, was \$263. Some small rents have been added to it; but no accumulation of interest, according to the donor's will, has or ever will be made, according to the present mode of conduct. The inadequate sum is still mingled by the trustees in the common mass of income at the treasury, and paid out for what we have seen. The mind is prepared by this to proceed to other scenes, in which, the leading characters the same, it is conducted through a train of events to extraordinary and more recent consequences.

Doctor Wheelock, after the death of his father, followed his footsteps through incessant toils and labours, under clouds of darkness, amidst obstacles, in trials and perplexities, to build up a seminary founded in faith, owned by God, and encouraged by the friends of religion and man. We have glanced at his undertakings, his attention to instruction and the internal concerns, the reliefs, the funds and accommodations for the College and School obtained by him, and, besides, his acts of beneficence. It is proper to place more fully in view a part of the last, from the effects which became interesting in the sequel. The reference is particularly to compensations for his early services; and we will cast our eyes on the records of the Institution.

“ At an annual meeting of the Hon. Board of Trustees at Dartmouth College, September 21st, 1782”—“ Resolved, that this Board esteem the finances of the College such as will not admit a compensation to the president any way adequate to his station and services—as we esteem one thousand dollars per

“ annum to be his just due ; yet, considering that his circumstances require something to be advanced towards his support, the Board hereby order that one thousand dollars be granted to him, in part payment for his services as president for three years last past.”

“ The foregoing resolution being communicated to the president, he signified his intention not to accept any pecuniary reward for his past services, on account of the reduced state of the finances of the College ; yet he had the highest sense of the liberality of the Board in their resolution for granting him one thousand dollars,”—“ therefore,

“ Resolved, that this Board have the most grateful sense of the liberality of the Hon. President of this University, in the generous donation of three thousand dollars due to him, which he has this day generously made for the benefit of this Institution ; and beg that their thankful acknowledgements for this, and many other singular favours, may be acceptable to the President.”

Though, from that period, in the course of the four succeeding years, many of the debts of the College and School had been discharged, and very considerable acquisitions of property had been made ; still of this a great part was unproductive, consisting of real estate, subsidiary aids to mental improvement, and money in expectancy. Besides, provision was to be made for the expenses of erecting the new building, and demands were arising from the claims of the grantees under the first charter of the township of Landaff. Doctor Wheelock therefore had nothing for himself.

“ *At an annual meeting of the Board of Trustees of Dartmouth College, at said College, September 22d, 1786.*”

“ This Board, taking into consideration, that the Hon. President Wheelock hath received no compensation for his services, since he hath been in office—that in the year 1782, he generously declined accepting a reward for services prior to that date, since which time, a reasonable compensation for his services, in his said office of president, is justly due ; considering also the low state of the College finances, which renders us unable to make that compensation, which might be reasonably expected, were our funds more ample—Resolved, that there be, and hereby is granted to the Hon. John Wheelock, Esq. president of this College, for his labours and services in the interest of this College, two hundred pounds lawful money, salary per annum, from commencement, A. D. 1782, to the present time, and for the year ensuing : and his said salary to rise, so fast as the finances of the College will admit, until it amount to three hundred pounds per annum.”

“ In consequence of a communication of the foregoing resolution, the Hon. President Wheelock, by a writing under his

" hand, dated this day; and founded on said resolution, signified his desire that the Board accept of eight hundred pounds due to him from the College, for his services from the year one thousand seven hundred and eighty two to this day, provided he shall die before he shall have made a particular arrangement for the application of said sum;—and that in case of his decease, as aforesaid, this Board consider the said sum as his free donation and gift to the Trustees, to be applied as they shall think proper, for some permanent fund for some office of the College." "Whereupon,

" Resolved, that the thanks of this Board be rendered to the Hon. president Wheelock, for the foregoing communication of his beneficent disposition towards this literary institution; and the Board cheerfully accept the donation of eight hundred pounds, by him made to the College, under the restrictions mentioned in his communication in said writing."

From this time, as before, Dr. Wheelock, besides his unremitting attention to the instruction and government, continued to have the care and management of the external concerns of the institution. The increasing difficulties of titles at Landaff, some old debts still remaining, but especially the necessity of procuring a part of the materials for the building and board for the workmen, not to be furnished by the subscriptions, demanded ready money. He was bent on saving the residue of the old, and all the new landed property, from the great loss in alienation. After all accommodations made, and charities obtained for the purpose, he was, unavoidably, reduced, by these causes, that the seminary might prosper, to involve himself, personally, towards six thousand dollars. The evidence is preserved in his accounts---they were fairly and minutely kept, with their vouchers, and carefully audited. In the course of these oppressive embarrassments, his family were without the means of comfortable subsistence. He was thus obliged to apply to the Board for the use of the eight hundred pounds (it had been in their hands, three years) until he should be able, otherwise, to obtain relief.

Accordingly the Board of Trustees, at their meeting August 26th, 1789—"Voted, that the rents of the 500 acres of land in Greensborough, including the whole of Mr. Ingalls' lease be applied to the use of the president, on account of interest of his salary, which is now due prior to the past year; and that the secretary be, and, hereby is impowered to assign the leases of those lands agreeable to said resolution."

Though he was involved on its account, the College, thereby became enriched; and the foundations secured for the increase of its revenues. In that and the three following years: we have seen the means obtained, the demands in the loss of Landaff and other remaining debts paid, a valuable tract of land added to the property of the seminary, the moiety of Wheelock leased and shortly to yield above 600 dollars, per annum, the building finished, its chambers

producing an annual rent of more than 300 dollars; the yearly income by tuition (the number of students increasing) in 1792 exceeding, in the treasury, at least 600 dollars, the amount in 1786. The president's salary therefore, by the repeated votes of the Board, ought to have been raised, by the year 1791, if not before, from two hundred to three hundred pounds, and, thus, continued in future.---Others had been allowed for their care of the finances from one hundred and fifty to two hundred dollars, per annum: to him, as observed, was committed, the extra charge of the whole management of them five years (and a part much longer) a period of critical and multiplied operations.

Such were the circumstances when the Board, in August 1793, appointed a committee to adjust and finally settle, in their behalf, all demands between them and the president---before this, they were not enabled to do it to so good effect for the interest of the seminary.

The committee, attending on the business, with him, he remarked, as a preliminary, that he felt no disposition, more than at first, to require the payment of the \$300. and should not bring it into account for settlement with them---that from necessity he had received the use of it four years, but ever intended to replace it in the Board, as in 1786, and, therefore, did relinquish it to them for the use of the College, according to the proposal then made---that he was then enabled to gratify his desire in doing it, being relieved from a pressure of debts on account of the Seminary, and should receive a sufficiency to support his family, from what they would now find otherwise due to him. As to what, on a final adjustment, might fairly remain in his favor, the items and evidences were before them; he was disposed to be moderate, and would rest fully satisfied with whatever *they* might think equitable and right. After particularly examining the accounts, and other matters of the increase of his salary, and his attentions to the finances, they formed their result; and proposed \$963 3 8, as what was right and equitable, and the Trustees ought, in justice, to allow.

The whole of the above, in their distinct parts, and the modes of payment of what was, then, considered unconditionally due is clearly presented in a report of the committee sometime after the settlement.

" The committee appointed August 1793, to settle accounts " with the Hon. president Wheelock, made report, which being " read and considered---Voted, that the same be accepted; and is " as follows namely"---

" To the Hon. Board of Trustees of Dartmouth College."

" Your Committee appointed to adjust and finally settle in behalf of said board all demands between them and the Hon. John Wheelock, president of said College; and to make a statement of their proceedings therein---report as follows, viz:---

" That they find, at a meeting of the Board, 1786, they voted to the president eight hundred pounds, as what was then due

“ to him for his salary, for the four preceding years; which sum
 “ of eight hundred pounds the president has now relinquished to
 “ said Trustees for the use of the College, agreeably to a former
 “ proposal, and without any pecuniary compensation from them.”

“ That we find the balance of the president’s *account* with the
 “ College amounts to the sum of one thousand six hundred and
 “ seventy-seven pound twelve shillings and three pence in his
 “ favor, that the president has now credited the Trustees with
 “ the sum of twelve hundred pounds, which is on account of
 “ school monies received, and due from said school to said Col-
 “ lege; which leaves a balance, in favor of the president, of four
 “ hundred and seventy-seven pounds twelve shillings and three
 “ pence.”

“ It further appears by sundry votes the Board passed in the
 “ years 1782, 1786, and 1789, they have manifested it as their
 “ opinion, that the president ought to have, and receive for his
 “ salary the sum of three hundred pounds per annum, so soon as
 “ the state of the finances will admit. That he has not received
 “ any compensation for his personal services, as financier, for
 “ five years.”

“ Therefore, in consideration of the aforesaid balance of four
 “ hundred and seventy-seven pounds twelve shillings and three
 “ pence; and in consideration of his personal services, as finan-
 “ cier, for five years; and, in consideration, that he relinquish-
 “ es all claim to more than the sum of two hundred pounds, per
 “ annum, by virtue of any vote of said Board, heretofore passed,
 “ exclusive of usual fees for degrees, your committee have agreed
 “ with and directed the financier to convey to said president
 “ Wheelock the annual rents, which shall become due on about
 “ six hundred and twenty acres of land in the township of Han-
 “ over and Lebanon, being in the neighborhood of Greensborough
 “ (so called,) said rents amounting to the sum of fifty six pounds
 “ seven shillings, per annum, during the term of nine hundred
 “ and ninety years, for which term said lands are now leased—
 “ and, also, to settle, and pay for him about eighty dollars, in
 “ sundry small balances, as by him represented to the Board, in
 “ August, 1793.”

“ *Signed by* { “ JONATHAN FREEMAN,
 “ EBEN. BREWSTER.”

Dartmouth College, August 29, 1795.”

By this detail we have a clear view of the position of the eight hundred pounds, how it was the whole reward for four of his seven years arduous services, which he intended an offering to the seminary—the express proposal, on which he, immediately after the vote of payment by the Board in 1786, lodged it in their care and use—the cause that obliged him after three years to ask for the use of it, four years—and the means, by which he was enabled to replace it for the use of the college, (as steadily intend-

ed) on the terms originally proposed. We have, before us, the whole doings of the Board with him on the subject; and no other but this proposal was ever mentioned, or intended, or could be referred to by the above committee. They, accordingly, and with his desire wholly excepted it from the articles of pecuniary adjustment and settlement.

Thus, the property lay in the free use of the Trustees, through many revolving seasons—But, at length, he beheld the seed of poison, sown by N...s, generating a separate interest in the Board—he beheld individual members, uniting with some in the neighborhood, hostile to the executive government of college—he beheld them, in their progress, by insinuations and artful measures, gaining strength to their party—he beheld with solicitude until he saw them changing the manners, and usages, and religious institutions, abandoning the design of the venerable Founder for a purpose of their own—he beheld them, from 1809 to 1814, by laws and other measures, practising cruelty and oppression, violating its charter, undermining the foundation of the seminary, applying its property, particularly the Phillips fund for theology, to subserve their own design. With these impressions, responsible to God, and with a humble desire to devote all to his glory, and the good of his fellow men, he considered it incumbent to save a remnant of what he had given to the College, so far as was in his power, and secure the application of it, for ever, to a proper and useful object.—Besides, twenty eight years had elapsed since the deposit of the eight hundred pounds, in their hands, and twenty four years it had been in their use; to which may be added one year, as it might be supposed, that the proposed plan could not be brought into operation before August 1815. Thus, if the interest of that sum had been accumulated, annually, in the principal, (as was expected and practised in Dr. Phillips' fund, while it was well managed) the capital in the twenty-five years would amount to a fund producing near seven hundred dollars per annum, the sum allowed to the professors. If only simple interest were added, it would constitute a capital producing above four hundred dollars, per annum, in which case, if any difficulty could have arisen, he stood ready to complete the salary.

After such a lapse of time, and so long a use of this property by the Trustees, and under the peculiar circumstances, which led him to fear a future perversion, the donor determined to attend to, and place it on a safe basis of lasting good to mankind. Such were the benevolent motives, which led him to address the following letter.

“Hanover, October 3, 1814.

“SIR,

“In September 1786, I deposited in the hands of the Trustees of Dartmouth College the sum of eight hundred pounds, the same as two thousand six hundred and sixty six dollars and

“ sixty six cents, for their use, to be considered as my gift, as a fund to accumulate for the support of some permanent establishment of an instructor in said college ; to be applied for that purpose by the said Trustees after my decease ; in case I should not think proper to apply the same, while living, in any other way—subject to be payable by them to me, if I should think fit to dispose of it to a different purpose.

“ As the said sum with its lawful accumulation by use during above twenty four years, will now be sufficient in its annual interest, for the durable support of an instructor in this Institution, I wish that it may be seqnestered and identified by the Trustees, without delay, for the support of a professorship, and a character, well qualified by indisputable talents, literature, and religion, be appointed to fill the same—such as the board shall elect to my approbation.—My wish is that he be a professor of *Eloquence* until such time, as the legacy of the Rev. Israel Evans (destined to that office) shall, in future, become sufficiently accumulated, and free for that purpose ;—and, afterwards, that my said fund, in its interest, shall be forever, applied to support a Professor of *Civil and Ecclesiastical History.*”

“ My sincere desire is, that the Board of trustees would accept this my free donation, to be applied in the way and manner just mentioned. A regard to promote the best interests of this seminary, under divine providence, has induced the subscriber to make this offering ; and who coneeives that the instructions, embraced by the profession of eloquence, are now most needed for the improvement of the students ; and, next to this, ecclesiastical and civil history are deemed necessary.”

“ Should the trustees decline to accept of this donation, and apply it as aforesaid, to the foregoing purpose, I have to desire you to pay its amount to me, it being the same sum of eight hundred pounds, with the use of it twenty-four years, last September ; as it will be, in such case, my desire to devote it to another object.

“ *I am, respectfully, Sir,*

“ *your very humble servant,*

JOHN WHEELOCK.

“ *The Hon. William H. Woodward,*
“ *Treasurer of Dartmouth College.*”

The treasurer communicated the foregoing letter to the Board, at their session, November following—we have seen a list of the members. Without any interehanges with Doctor Wheelock on the subjeet,* their minutes, to which we recur, remain alone to express their views and disposition.

* One of their number just remarked to Dr. Wheelock, that it alone was not sufficient for the support of a professor. He replied, that in such case it should be made up without diminishing or deranging the incomes of the College.

“ The following resolution was presented by Mr. Marsh—

“ Resolved, that the treasurer be, and he hereby is directed to “ pay no part, either of the principal or interest, of the sum of “ eight hundred pounds, intended to be granted by the Board of “ trustees of Dartmouth College, at its annual meeting, in the “ year 1786, to John Wheelock, Esq. then and now president of “ said College.”

“ Voted, that the above resolution be adopted.”†

The public have the full evidence before them. They will determine of the justice of the claim, and the propriety of the said resolution, and whether it be a return for beneficence. He has never received a cent of this money, amounting with compound interest, to eleven thousand dollars—or, with simple interest, to seven thousand dollars.‡—He had devoted it in his heart among the smaller pledges of attachment to the seminary, to whose exaltation he had devoted an age of ardour and action. While its sanctuary of rights and principles is assailed by those of more nerves than the barbarians, who spared the *Stoa* and *Lyccum*, he could wish to have preserved one monument of former things among its ruins: one fund yielding known and certain fruits among other funds, and monies indefinitely and unprofitably used. Disappointed in his hope, he feels that he has good right to reclaim it—and his intention is to devote it to another charitable object.

For six years Mr. William H. Woodward has had the care of the finances of the College, having been treasurer four years preceding. His father was many years the chief counsellor and assistant of the founder, was long a distinguished instructor, held the office of vice-president, while Dr. Wheelock was in Europe, and skilfully managed the public property in 1779 and after. His son inherits his talents and integrity, and good old notions of the original design of the seminary. He stands with Governor Gilman and its best friends. The members of the new league would be gratified with another in his place; but such are his calculations and economy in the fiscal concerns, they cannot well do without him. The mere good management of its property, however, will not alone save a literary establishment from ruin, nor render it prosperous. There ought never to be a surplusage of payment for services;—and there ought to be provided funds to support instruction in the distinct branches of the professional and

† In August 1809, before the election of a professor of the languages, the president suggested his benevolent intention to give, then, to the College upwards of three thousand dollars, towards an establishment of that professorship; but, in such case, should expect the Board would make the first appointment, in which he could accord. That friend happened to mention the thing to one of those members who had begun to exhibit tokens which became afterwards more distinguishable. What, he abruptly said, does the president think to bribe the Board? They are not to be bribed. This put an end to the design. What could he do who had done so much for the institution, when such a mark of good will was construed into corruption.

‡ In addition to this sum the College is indebted to president Wheelock on account of salary and money lent, near six thousand dollars.

higher sciences. To this end nothing will be wanting, if the guardians of the institution are pure and liberal in sentiments; if they cherish it as a garden of profit and delight to mankind, and do not convert it into a nursery to subserve the interest of a sect or party; if they are candid, unbiassed and open in their measures, free from favouritism, prudent in the application of property committed to their trust, and if they cautiously direct in the channel intended by the donors.

How scrupulously those Trustees, who, for several years, have controuled the counsels of the Board, have moved in the path, just marked out, we leave to be determined by their own records, and proceedings, in public view. Certain it is they have, for a considerable time received no special tokens of beneficent patronage: they, or their agent, last year, applied to the General Court for aid, but without success. Let them convince the enlightened, the able and benevolent, that they have not forsaken first principles, set up a party instead of mankind, and their own end, as the common good---that for this they have not pursued favorite measures, and selected favorite friends with favorite pay---that they have not applied gifts in a way not designed by the benefactors---that they have not, with fair professions of impartiality, withdrawn from the ever acknowledged religious institution of the College the means of its existence (which the board of their own accord, had always pledged their faith to continue) and applied the same to support, and cherish an alien new body set up by party spirit in opposition; and that deaf to the sighs of reason and conscience, they have not broken over the barrier of the charter, and practised oppression and cruelty: Let them bring convincing evidence in these points or abandon their course, and the friends of man and undefiled religion will soon afford all supplies profitable to the cause of science in that seminary. Otherwise, they may rest their hopes on the miserable expedients to which they are now resorting.

The incomes of the College, the officers and their duties, have been noticed. About the whole of the revenues is absorbed by the annual expenses. From the tuition bills, at five dollars per quarter for each scholar, chiefly arises the pay of instruction. To establish a new office it would be necessary to resort to this source, or to new modify the present establishments, or dispose of the wild lands, or procure donations. The majority of the Board will not undertake the second; the third would produce a ruinous loss; the fourth, at present, is impracticable; there only, therefore, remains recourse to the first. Thus they viewed the subject at their late meeting in November, when they adopted the following resolution—

“ Voted, that Judge Paine be a committee to report a plan for establishing professors of Oratory and Chemistry.”

Dr. Wheelock's letter to the treasurer, on part of the above subject, had lain before them from the first of their session: but

passing it by in silence, they did not think proper to confer with him on the means of supporting a professor. The committee offered the outlines of a report; that professors of oratory and chemistry be appointed to receive salaries equal to one of the other three professors; and that the tuition bills of all the members of College should be increased to a sum, which, with the fees, that they and the medical Students should pay for attending the chemical lectures, would amount to the two salaries. After consultations on the subject, the following was adopted.

“ Judge Paine made report of a plan for establishing professors of Oratory and Chemistry which report was recommitted to Judge Paine and Rev. Asa M-Farland.”

No other than the above method of support has been contemplated: and unless some new plan should occur it becomes incumbent on the Committee to increase, and modify the rate of the tuition bills answerable to the purpose; to find proper persons, particularly one for the chair of Oratory, and make report at the next meeting in August. It is not hard to suppose that they will endeavor to elect one into their family wrought up to its views and feelings, and helpful with their retainers in the new work. Nor is it hard to divine (should such a plan be adopted) what the effect will be on the Institution, its students already burdened with heavy room rents, bills of tuition, and other expenses. The tendency will be to diminish their number. They ought not, in general, to be taxed with payments of tuition, except for ordinary classical instruction: And how precarious the prospect of support to professors, who settle with their families on such a dependence!

Such are the expedients, to which these present trustees seem to have reduced themselves. They would become founders of expensive establishments (consecrated to their own end) by means controuled by their edicts.* And not responsible, if they receive

* Though of but little consequence it may, perhaps, be worthy of notice that while, from the depreciation of money or other causes, in the habit of increasing the salaries of the Professors they have been disposed to defalcate the allowance to the President. In 1798 we find the following act of the Board,—“ Voted, that one half part of the fees for conferring the degree of Bachelor of Medicine pro meritis be a perquisite to the President, and the other half be a perquisite to the Professor of Medicine.”—But in November 1814, in a multitude of far more afflictive measures, Mr. Marsh brought forward the motion.—“ Resolved, that the president be authorized to receive only the same fees for conferring Medical degrees, as by law he is entitled to receive for conferring the degree of Bachelor and Master of Arts; and that the remainder of the perquisites, arising from conferring medical degrees, be equally divided between the professors in the department of medicine for the time being.”—By this he was cut

charities, to apply them to the same purpose without account. Thus, while more familiarized to other virtues, they may become estranged from occasions for the exercise of gratitude.

A sketch has been given of the origin and early progress of the medical establishment; and the circumstances, under which Dr. Nathan Smith resigned his office. The state owns the building and the land, on which it was erected in the year 1811; also most of the medical and chemical apparatus, a small residue belonging to the trustees, their whole property in this department. They appointed the officers---and we have seen their menae hovering on their rights. But, as their interest is less in that than in the old stock, as the existence of the former is more within the patronage of the state, and sustained by talents independent of their control, they have not, as yet, been able to shape it exactly to their model, among the conveniences in their despotism. It stands, however, in the region of the *Sirocco*, and sickness in the blast. Doct. Perkins, first professor, with correct and enlightened views, will never exchange force of character for vas-salage. Professor Mussey has lately been associated with him, as successor of Doct. Smith in the theory and practice of physie. But, to make the institution an enduring and prosperous nursery for the children of *Æsculapius*, it will be expedient to sever the chain, that holds it to the College, or produce a reform in the Board, which manages its concerers.

VI. AN ACCOUNT OF MOORS' SCHOOL.

CONTINUED.

Proper informations, and satisfactory evidences being given to the Hon. Society in Scotland, by their respectable Board of Commissioners established at Boston, its incumbrances were removed, and the school, at length, brought into more extensive operation.

In the year 1799, Dr. Wheelock employed the Rev. Lyman Potter on a mission to the Cherokees, 1100 miles to the south. He mingled with these wild natives---opened to them the book of life; and they appeared to receive the messages of divine grace

off from toward half of the medical fees which he had always before received. The fees are the only perquisite besides his salary. This is the man who in his holy zeal that the President should resign or die before the next session, moved that somebody might be appointed to take his place.

with gladness. Soon after, communication was opened with the tribes of the Six Nations in Upper Canada. Joseph Brant, so memorable in the Indian annals for his improvements and exploits, sent two sons to be members of the same School, in which he had been educated, with letters of grateful remembrance of the *founder*, as, to whom, under God, he owed his elevation above the savage. One of them, more promising, died not long after his return and many hopes were buried with him. In 1802 the Rev. Mr. Merrill, then preceptor of the School, visited the tribes in Lower Canada. The chiefs of St. Francis gratefully rejoiced to place their children in the path of instruction; and several of them were received. Three in general, and at times four, from the St. Francis, Caghnewaga and Algonquin tribes, have been maintained annually at the school till the last year. By obstruction of intercourse and interruptions by the war, there is only one at present; others are expected so soon as peaceful communications are opened.

All these have been supported at the school with every necessary, by the interest of its fund in the care of the society, through the medium of their commissioners, at the rate of about one hundred and thirty dollars per annum for each. Generally, they were regular and attentive, their improvements useful; and since their return, their conduct becoming, so far as we have heard.

Mr. Willey, at the desire of Dr. Wheelock, in November 1813, proceeded to the Indians at St. Regis. During his short stay, he opened to their view the fundamental truths of the gospel. They were seriously affected—and how disposed for education will appear by an abstract of their letter.

“ *St. Regis, Jan. 19, 1814.* ”

“ *Honoured Father,* ”

“ We have received your letter, which gives us great satisfaction to think that you was so good as to give us this offer, which we have received from you by the hands of Mr. Willey. As soon as we can learn the movements of the armies, we will be very glad to send our children; and be very happy to think that they have the good fortune to be under the protection of so good a father. As soon as the present army marches from this place we will send one or two youths, in company with one of our chiefs.* ”

“ These lines from your sincere friends, the Sachems, head men and fathers of the Tribe at St. Regis.”

“ LOUIS COOK,†
“ SATAGAYANETO,
“ GANOTENTIE,
[and others.] ”

* The retreat of our army prevented their design.

† In the revolutionary war, he was a bold and enterprizing adventurer through the northern woods, reconnoitering the lines and positions of the enemy. General Washington held him in particular notice and esteem.

Communications of earlier dates had been received from the Saehems and chiefs of St. Francis, indicating the same bias of mind.

A propensity to improvement is natural to the human race, and to be discerned in nations and individuals. It is checked by the inextricable power of the elements, the occasional circumstances of living, and the oppression of despotism. The first cause operates on the Samoiede's, the inhabitants of Lapland and Greenland: the second on uncultivated nations, in temperate climates, which may advance civilization, as the ancient Germans, Gauls and Britons; or on the lower order of people, in moderate governments, confined to hard labor and want: the third on all who wear the servile yoke of despotic power, as in the empires of Turkey and Persia.

But some account the American savages, as an anomaly. They consider the measures, and the zeal of two hundred years, to draw them to christianity and civilization—they note of the attempts, many abortive, and none answerable to expectation—and hence conclude, that they are either not susceptible of improvement, or consigned by the mystery of divine providence to ignorance and idolatry. The former opinion erases them from the list of our species, the latter is vitiated by the pride of human exertions. The experiments, under unfavourable circumstances, have been imperfect, and the induction from them erroneous.

1. The strongest attachment of man is to himself and his own opinions. His manners, deeply rooted in early life, and strengthened by age, are obstinate against the attacks of foreign influence; but yield to familiarized examples in the circle of his social intercourse. Conquerors never raised nations by the point of the sword, from ignorance to knowledge, from their cradle to manhood in improvements; but men, who sprang up in the bosom of their own societies, who were one with the people, and possessed talents and qualities, which, as the president de Goguet justly remarks,‡ “gained the public esteem and confidence.” Such were the patriots, who, as Osiris and Phoroneus and Cecrops and Numa, by their examples, instructions and laws, accorded by their free countrymen, gradually improved their manners, and led them from barbarism towards refinement. Thus it was with the nations of Europe, whose early histories have been best preserved—and, turning to America, we may conclude it was so when they exchanged their wig-wams for cities in the empire of *Mango-Capac*; and the same in the advancement of social order among the Mexicans. The Spaniards undertook by conquest and violence, and reduced the natives to servitude; but could never improve their manners.

In North-America, the English and French emigrants, actuated by milder motives, made use of forcible or accommodating measures, according to circumstances, in forming their settle-

ments. Still, as the Spaniards, they have held the natives in the same contempt, that is natural for the civilized to hold the savage—they have treated them, as an alien and inferior race, never mingling in the interchanges of the social state, needful to inspire confidence, and familiarize, and draw the mind to discern, and taste the pleasures of cultivation. The colonial and state governments have beheld with a despotic eye the tribes within their limits: the laws have provided for them some *protection*, without affording the *rights* of citizens. If the friends of the Redeemer, actuated by the benign precepts of the gospel, have, at times, ardently engaged to promote instruction, and reform, among these western pagans, the work, for the most part, was attempted by solitary missionaries, occasional or transient residents, strangers to the manners of those, who were equally estranged to them and their cause. Far different were the undertakings of the apostolick age, which were sustained and prospered by miracles, and wonders, and supernatural aids, not to be expected in after times. And far different in the fifth and following centuries, when to extend christianity the pious adventurers were more zealous and persevering, unappalled by perils and wo; when the political influencees of the eastern and western Roman empires, and various orders of men, enlisted with the clergy to promote the cause.

2. Cicero has observed, that we should not determine the rights of kingdoms and nations by the same principles we determine the rights of a gutter between individuals;* not less absurd would it be to resort to the same causes, in judging of changes in the manners and habits of societies, that we resort to in the cases of single persons. This, however, is a practice too common, and fully exemplified in the subject before us. Because, among the civilized, as in the United States, the mind of the young is soon enlightened, and his manners formed and improved, by example and instruction, or perhaps, the people of a district, by new means of information, quickly advance in knowledge, the Indian nations not yielding to the same influences, are ranged in a lower order, as improper objects of further experiment. But how different from those of the former are the circumstances of the latter. Their principles, customs, and habits, have been established, time immemorial, and perpetually confirmed by personal practice, and social intercourse. The former individuals are as a coppice, which soon falls beneath innumerable surrounding hands; these as a wilderness to be cleared, and broken up, and only a few solitary hands employed.

What has been said is verified by faithful accounts of the progress of improvement. The immense treasures and labors are left on record, which were expended, under the princes of the Carlovingian dynasty, to plant the seeds of knowledge in the forests of Germany; and it required the growth of ages before that

* *Lib. 1. de legibus.*

country was enriched with their golden fruits. Two hundred and fifty years was Russia marching from the abyss of barbarism, under Baeilowitz I. to the civilized arts; and well known are the unremitting exertions of Peter the Great, and the late Catherine, in the midst of the people, to facilitate her progress.

If the means and obstacles be considered, as great success has attended the undertakings to evangelize and enlighten the western tribes, as marked the footsteps of eastern nations, in their passage from darkness to light. Of all the plans for the improvement of these tribes, that of the Jesuits has succeeded the best. They have proved, by two examples in Spanish America, their capability of as high attainment in arts and social order, as falls to the lot of our species.¶ But these splendid events are the only blessings, which those enterprising adventurers, and supporters of spiritual despotism, procured to balance the calamities, which they inflicted on the human race.

Besides the attempts, which the federal government are now making with the Cherokees, two plans have been adopted by the Anglo-Americans to enlighten and convert the savages. That of sending missionaries and instructors among them has, in general, been productive of good effects; but not to be compared with that revolution, which might have been accomplished, had means and measures been sufficiently provided, as in the former case, to introduce arts to their view; had the teachers united with them in social ties, and in one common interest; and, thus securing their confidence, allured their attention and feelings in the path of improvement. But, the plan of receiving their children to be educated in the abodes of civilization, and, afterwards, returning them to their native tribes is more conducive than the former, as practised, to the end proposed. With principles and manners thus formed, they will, by their examples, habits and information, produce more interesting and enduring impressions on the views, and feelings, of their friends and associates, in the familiar intercourse of life, than one, whom they behold as unallied, unconnected with their interest, and foreign to their system of economy and pursuits.

Such were among the powerful motives, which led to the establishment, and continuation of Moors' Indian Charity School. In each of those ways its property has been applied to raise the tribes from their abyss of ignorance and heathenism, and by the goodness of God, with some success, but mostly in the latter. Is it strange, that in the multitude educated at the school, some should disappoint the expectations of their friends? But we can show in the list many, who yielded harvests of good fruit. To pass by others, we could notice the *Pumpshires*, *Fowler*, *Brant*, *Johnson*, *Francis Annance*, *Francis Gill*, *Louis Vincent*, *Sauk*,

¶For these instances, in Paragua and California, we may refer to the historical accounts of the *Abbe Raynal* and *Humboldt*.

Stacy, and some more recent, on whom our strong hopes are hovering. They were labourers, breaking up the ground of improvement among their countrymen, and a number of them friends to vital piety, and followers of the cross. We could now point at the state of the tribes of those, who have been thus educated—it is enough to mention, here, the St. Francis, Caghnewaga, and some of the six nations; and by comparing what they were in former times, when they began to feel such influence, with what they are at present, we clearly illustrate, in their gradual advances, the effect of this cause. We have shown the obstacles, and the slow progress of nations towards refinement. Their motion, at any one instant, is not to be discerned, more than the motion of the sun in the firmament; and it easy to see the mistake of analogical reasoning, in comparing the progress of nations with that of individuals. Wisely have the society in Scotland and their commissioners approved and sanctioned the continuation of this method. It has been the only establishment of lasting experiment of the kind in North America. We will next consider the school in relation to its other disposals, and its fund in this country.



Provision made for the payment of the old debts of the school, though not for its protracted existence, it was sustained and protected by the abounding mercy of divine providence, without resource, but in the exertions and personal reliefs of Doctor Wheeloek, till the year 1798, when the grant of Vermont began to be productive in rents on long leases. He might, by disposal, have received the amount of the capital below his calculated estimate, but it would have been to sacrifice the lasting prosperity of the seminary to its ephemeral benefit. The disadvantage of an arrangement was therefore prepared for applying a part of the annual incomes, till past expenses should be refunded, while the remaining part could be devoted to the support of the object without any new involvement.

Most of the land is leased—the product of the rents above five hundred dollars per annum. It had been more, were it not that some of the settlements have been abandoned by reason of the war, and others affected by the convulsive dispute concerning the title.

From forty to sixty youths have been annually taught at the school by a succession of instructors from Mr. Dunham in 1790, when an improved system of order and instruction was introduced, under his watchful and skilful guidance. Mr. Perry has held the charge three years, and proposes to continue. It prospers by his unceasing exertions, and rare qualities to form, and embellish

the youthful mind. The building, the fuel, the instruction of from ten to sixteen, and some other occasional aids for the indigent, are provided at the expense of the school. These benefits will increase, as its fund becomes disengaged, and when its unsettled land shall be made productive, and other gifts added to its property. It will be desirable and to be expected, that so soon as circumstances can admit, a part of these resources should be more effectually applied, as the fund in Scotland, to the cause of christianizing and enlightening the American pagans. It was one great object in the grant, and the only object of a bequest made by the founder to his successor, and an important object of his own exertion, in procuring benefactions, and devoting his labours for the school, twenty-nine years, without any reward.

The grant was made to Dr. Wheelock as president of Moors' School and to his successors in office. Thus, he held in his own hands all the property of the same, distinct from the monies in Great Britain, and their avails, for which he was, and is responsible to the Society in Scotland. He feared that, in some future time, there might be a misapplication or perversion of the deposits. His mind was impressed by the importance of a Board of honest wise men to guard the same. The School, though distinct was nearly connected with the College; the first object of the charter of the College was the same, as of the School; and the former trustees had been always faithful, and enlightened, in the discharges of their trust. Hence, by agreement of the parties, an act of incorporation was made June 9th, 1807 by the General Court. By it the property was to be applied according to the design of the donors; by it the president could apply none of its funds in America without the advice and concurrence of the Board of Trustees of the School; and by it all the rights of the Society in Scotland were expressly excepted.* The year following by the desire of the trustees, with the qualified consent of the president, an act was passed supplementary to the former, investing the president and the Board of the School, with equal rights and power in the disposal and application of its property. The following is an abstract of a letter from the president to the Agent of the Trustees, who presented their draft for the last act.

“ December 2d, 1808.

“ I know of no doubt, which can in future time arise, as to the intent and meaning of every part, unless it be of the words *all other concerns*. I supposed from the preceding and succeeding parts, that they do not import the exercise of ministerial powers; but mean and intend all the uses and applications of the avails of funds or property, and the objects to which they are immediately destined: and excepting the same right, which the society in Scotland claim, in relation to concerns and objects of

* See the act of incorporation, Note B.

" the fund in their care ; and so I conclude, it will be considered
" by those concerned."

The act made it a matter of convenience, that the Board of the College could, at any time during its sessions, transform itself into the Board of the School. It is important to bear this in mind for it will interpret much to our understanding in the sceneries that the same individuals, who acted on one stage, were to act about the same times, on the other.

For five years, the internal order and instruction of the school were almost uninterruptedly preserved--the preceptors carefully attended to their duty--the president, stately, as usual, visited it once every week, to question and instruct the youths in the doctrines of the gospel, principles accorded in by the Genevan, Dutch and Scotish churches, and Westminster divines. Nothing arose to disturb its harmony, except some secret influences to temper the minds of certain members (particularly an individual) and draw them into allegiance to a party, which we have seen, and by whom patronized, and by what means supported. We will not waste time to bring into respect the detestable conduct of this individual, who took shelter in the arms of some of the leaders of that party--who on their faith, and credit, has received undeserved notice abroad--and placed in the charitable path of a public education. The evidences are ready, if any one is disposed to throw the gauntlet.

Descending to the year 1813, we light on a subject, which, though at first glance it appears irrelevant, will be found connected with the chain of these sketches. An act of the General Court incorporating *Union Academy* (twelve miles from the College) had scarcely become cold, when its board of Trustees, having held their first session in Woodstock, Vermont, applied, in August, to the Board of Trustees of Dartmouth College for their patronage and aid. The answer of the latter follows.

" Voted, that, for the four years next ensuing, one half of the
" tuition money be remitted to any number of students of College,
" not exceeding six ; who shall, during their residence in Col-
" lege, be patronized by the Trustees of said academy, to the
" amount of forty dollars each, annually ; and be apparently suit-
" able objects of charity--and that a like proportion of tuition
" money be remitted to any of the said number, who may receive
" from said academy a sum less than forty dollars, annually."

" Resolved, that if the trustees of *Union Academy* deem it ex-
" pedient to extend the amount of patronage contemplated by the
" preceding resolution, viz. the sum of two hundred and forty
" dollars, annually, to a greater number of students of College
" than six, this Board will, for and during the period aforesaid,
" remit to each of those students so much of the charge for tuition,
" as will be in proportion to the patronage he receives from said
" trustees of *Union Academy* ; provided the whole sum, so to be
" remitted, do not exceed sixty dollars, annually."

After the foregoing resolutions a proposal of the same nature was laid before the Board. These were the words:—

“ *To the Hon. Board of Trustees of Dartmouth College.* ”

“ As there are some members of Moors’ Charity School, who are esteemed promising and deserving, most of whom have in view the object of becoming ministers of the gospel, and who have in view to complete a course of public education; but must depend on the benevolence of the good, and on their own exertions, under many difficulties, to obtain support in accomplishing their design:—Considering the early relation between School and College—and the advantage that might arise to the good of mankind, and the promotion of the cause of Zion, I take the liberty sincerely to desire the assistance of your honorable body—that you would remit in whole, or in part, the tuition of such promising and indigent youths, who have been members of Moors’ School, and are now members of College; and also such promising youths, who are now and who may be members of the school, and who will become members of the College so soon as they may be qualified. With my entreaty for your benevolent attention to this interesting and pious design, I hope and earnestly wish that you would consider the object proposed as deserving your regard and patronage,

“ *I am, very respectfully, JOHN WHEELOCK.* ”

“ *Dartmouth College, August 26, 1813.* ”

The Board, taking the above proposal into consideration—
Voted, by a majority, *in the negative!!!* Application had been made before to the same end, but without effect.

At their late adjourned meeting, Nov. 9, 1814, the trustees of the College adopted this resolution:

“ Voted, that the certificate of the treasurer of Union Academy, stating the amount to which any student in College is patronized by said Academy, shall be, for the time being, a sufficient voucher to the College treasurer.”—The trustees of Union Academy, at the same time, have also applied to the trustees of the College for a further extention of their patronage and assistance to them. It is in amount, that instead of six, *twenty, four* at a time, members of College, recommended from that Academy, shall be intitled to the same favor of a remission of half their tuition bills. The trustees of the College have proceeded in the case, so far, as follows:

“ Voted, that a consideration of the Memorial of the Committee of Union Academy be postponed till the next meeting of the Board.” On this point, is it hard to judge what those will do, who adopted the foregoing resolutions?

At the same session these trustees, resolving themselves into the trustees of the School, adopted, as part of their vote, the subsequent words: “ that, for the present, no part of the funds, of which this Board has control, shall be applied to the education of Indians.”

The votes, now presented in the channel of our faithful history, viewed in their relations, require no exposition, to show the aim of their authors, and their improper proceedings. But to give a

full perspective of the subject, in its circumstances and bearings, we will cast our eyes on three points, in succession.

1. What is the design of *Union Academy*? It was professedly erected to teach the young in the elements of literature, to fit them for College, and especially to encourage and support by charities such as are pious, promising, and determined to enter, when educated, into the gospel ministry. But, who, in the days of youth, can calculate the aptitude of his own capacity, what his circumstances, what the bias of his mind in a distant period of maturer life? Who, may not be deceived in his own views and motives? or, if not deceived, who, at twelve, or fourteen, or sixteen, or even at eighteen years, when he commences his studies at the academy, can say what cause may not arise, in the changing events of five, six, or seven years; what destiny of divine providence may not point out another path of future pursuit? More than this; the chance of living is diminished inversely, to the number of years, which he must spend to become qualified for the proposed employment—thus, the hope of the pious benefactor is lessened of realizing the contemplated fruit of his bounty. Above all, may I ask—who has the hardihood to spread snares of spiritual death before the youthful mind? Is it no temptation to one without piety, indigent, and ardent for improvement and fame, to find that he can procure them from the hand of charity, at the easy rate of a profession, *a creed*, and a distant promise? The pictures are drawn. One exhibits a youth pious and sincere when he promised, but in the course of years, he has changed his views, and his apprehension of duty; the other a youth heedless or fascinated into false belief when he promised, and never in the course of education, became qualified or inclined to the undertaking proposed. Both have received earnest, and given pledges, which cannot be redeemed.

Such are among the reasons, which lead strongly to call in question the soundness of a principle in any Academy that selects those only of the admitted, to be the objects of charity, who propose to engage in the service of the ministry. Our conclusion is confirmed by analogy, experiments of this nature have already been made: however promising, and however bound, few, comparatively, fulfilled the expectations of their patrons. Benefactions bestowed on the young, in the early part of education, should extend to the capable and virtuous, not to prescribe distant pursuits; but look to God for his grace to prepare them, in his own way, for his glory, and the cause of the Redeemer. Charities designed for the service of the altar are, in general, more wisely directed to the pious, in the advanced stages of their collegiate course, as they become established in views and habits; still more unerringly, to the support of indigent students, at the Andover Institution, or Princeton Seminary.

2. The Trustees of Dartmouth College, (their own acts record it) have undertaken the patronage and received *Union Academy* into their confidential alliance. Why this partiality? Why not extend the same favour and privileges to other academies in

the state? They too, *may* know of deserving pious youths—they have equal right to admit them, as their members, and receive charities for their support, with an express view also to the sacred ministry. Let them but be encouraged on the same ground, and the trustees would receive, as proper objects of their bounty, selected indigent pious students (aided by the beneficence of their acquaintance) from other establishments, which have as high claims, as Union Academy, to the advantages and privileges of Dartmouth College. But, further, What right have the trustees, by the intent of their charter, to enter into treaty with a foreign corporation, to receive its members; and, to support them, apply their own funds? Is it not a prostration of its dignity, and resigning the independent right and attributes of the College into other hands? The Board hold a trust pure in its nature, and not to provide for the *projects* and *contrivances* of the few, not to patronize the associated interest of individuals, not to create *influence* among the constituents of a party;—but a trust consecrated to *literature*, to *humanity*, to the religion of the *Bible*, sealed by the blood of the Son of God; *which is gentle, easy to be entreated, full of mercy and good fruits, without partiality, and without hypocrisy*.

It is a duty incumbent on the trustees, to afford every possible pecuniary aid to alleviate the burden of the virtuous youthful traveller, oppressed with want in the path of his education. Not a mere organ or handy convenience, but a tribunal of inquiry and award, they should open the door to the innocent applications and prayers of the needy students, and learn their circumstances and qualities, and spread relief as the state of the funds admit. This method, under a tender and prudent guardianship, would multiply the blessings of the seminary, and enrich its treasury by the products of increased members and benevolence, more than can be gained by any scheme of monopoly. The Board (its records will show it,) practised in this manner, and with wonderful success, in days of former years. But, there still remains a mystery, in a connected view of the foregoing resolutions, not to be explained, by any ascription to error of judgment, in the common course. It is *part of a plan, a long concerted scheme*.

3. Why was such a privilege granted to Union Academy, and *expressly refused* to Moors' School? This is the problem—we shall arrive at the solution by considering certain *data*.—The College grew out of the *anterior existence of the school*—both received nourishment from the same root; both instituted in the same relation to one design, and closely connected through the stages of their progress. To destroy then effectually the original principles and order of the establishment, it became necessary to strike at the vital part of *each*. How certain characters, a new mass in the Board, cementing with a *party*, have abandoned the good old path of ordinances, charter, and usage, and carried on their works, and methods, in sapping *one* foundation of the precious structures, their own votes and executions testify. It remained for them to attack the *other*.—The way was now opened.

A plan of an academy to educate pious youths for the gospel

ministry, had been projected by some worthy good persons. It was, finally, modified into Union Academy, similar to common establishments of the same name with the additional purpose of supporting the needy and promising, by charity, while there, and through the course of a public education; and this on presumption of their eventually undertaking that sacred employ: An object, that claims the best wishes and support, as most interesting to the divine glory, and human happiness; but which, for reasons given, will never succeed answerably to the hopes of the beneficent. Some, however, of these trustees of the College and other individuals of their *coalition* in the acts and measures, which have been portrayed, engaged eagerly in the cause. No doubt they had a full share in preparing and establishing a *plan*, which was to be immediately thrown into the arms of the board for patronage and nurture. Yes; one of its active members, and with them, who voted down all the preceding resolutions, was the organized president of the corporation of that Academy; one of their professors became its secretary; another of their professors its treasurer, and both trustees to sign warrants, in favor of their students, on the Treasurer of the College.

Such was the arrangement of men and measures. The members of the Board, who, in the same votes, adopted a foreign Academy to favor, from which they excluded Moors' Charity school, might expect to gratify their own party, and they might hope, by a specious act, to procure new friends unacquainted with their motives and design. Is it still enquired what their design could be? Consider that no reason was assigned for the exclusion, but what appears on the face of the votes. Consider that one leading article in the bill of indictment, by the state of Vermont, against the president, in the year 1807, as cause of the forfeiture of the grant, was, that *no Indians were supported at the School*: Bring this before your eyes by the side of the preceding vote, "that for *the present, no part of the funds of which this board has control, shall be applied to the education of the Indians.*" These funds consist almost wholly in this *very* grant which they hold in trust from that state. Consider the vote itself opposed, so far as it literally extends, and further, in its solitary portentous aspect, to the primitive design of the seminary. Once more, we entreat you to consider, that these votes, aimed at the existence of the School; were passed, by the same individuals, on the tenth of last November, at the same meeting, and with as little consultation, suddenly, while, acting as a board, as when they voted the extraordinary resolutions, before noticed, in relation to the College.

We have now finished the survey. From the parts acted by the characters, in the scenes brought into view, can there be a doubt of the catastrophe, which they have meditated? They have laid their axe at the root of the tree. Nothing less is their aim, than the entire destruction of the principles of the two establishments—then to clear away the rubbish, and erect their own structures under the old veil. The overwhelming evidence of this, traced in the preceding historical sketches, led to events, which invite our next attention.

VII. THE SEQUEL.

THE real friends of the Institution began to be alarmed, in the year 1808, at the first appearance of a fixed determination in a scanty majority of the Board to manage, and direct the fund of the theological establishment, in a channel deviating from the path of the donor. Their fears and solicitude increased, when they beheld them consigning this sacred deposite with their votes, devices, and patronage, to support, and encourage an unjustifiable party without the pale of their trust—when they beheld them abandoning the principles of the old system, forming a new interest, uniting, to make the leaders of this party and their adherents a convenience—and beheld the energies of their power, and skill, and address, employed to gain and collect friends at their standard, and provide instruments for their purpose—when the eye followed them pressing through the barrier of the charter, and discerned the foundation of the seminary giving way; it was then while the Board were convened, in August, 1812, a motion was made: “That the trustees would apply to the General Court, and desire it to look into, and examine all concerns, and management, in relation to the funds, the government, and education of the College and School.”

It was proposed by a member, that the subject should lie for the consideration of the Board, at a future meeting. Thus, the matter rested. When the Trustees were in their next session, the ensuing year, it was hoped that the subject would have been considered; but it passed in silence.

At the meeting of the Board of Trustees in November last, the reasons becoming more urgent and imperious, a proposal was made to them in the following substance.

“ November 11th, 1814. .

“ This day the president of Dartmouth College made a motion
“ to the Board of Trustees, to make application to the Legisla-
“ ture of New-Hampshire, to examine by committee, or otherwise,
“ into the situation and circumstances of the College and School,
“ and their concerns—to enable them to rectify any thing amiss;
“ and how far they ought with propriety to extend their patron-
“ age to the Institution—Which motion was negatived by the
“ Board, and not recorded.”*

“ I, being present, make this certificate, at the request of
“ the president.”

STEPHEN JACOB, member
of the Board.”

The trustees, who lifted their hands against the above resolution were the same who had just before, at the same session, passed the votes already mentioned—votes more memorable for usurpation, and oppression, than any which have tarnished the annals of a literary establishment. The authors of these, and other proceedings like them, now brought into light, though modelled in

* A motion was made to enter it on the records, but this also was negatived. The majority as usual.

different shapes, could not receive with much complacence any proposal, which might leave them *amenable to a higher power*.

An unbridled aristocracy, whether political, religious, or academical, is equally to be dreaded. Power exercised under whatever name, is in its nature the same ; and carried to excess is oppression. Such a government is a hot-bed of intrigue ; and outstrips in violence a single tyranny. Each member has the spirit of a despot, and united they form the accumulated despotism of the *corps*. But under no circumstances can this system revolt the dictates of nature, as in a seminary of learning. Party contrivance, intrigue, and violent acts, are all fatal to its interest. It prospers only in peace ; and when, with *letters*, religion, and the chaste virtues are cultivated, the minds of youths led to magnanimous conceptions, and not adulterated by example, or suggestion, with false views, and partial attachments.

Those trustees of the Board who combined in the series of late melancholy measures, already presented in their doings, have, in the common course of innovators, partly by zealous professions of piety, and partly of regard to the order and well-being of society, gained to their confidence, and good wishes to their cause, some pious and highly deserving characters of a religious denomination, and certain others, friends to humanity, and respected in the social state ; while all have been strangers to the *springs* and *bearings* of their practice. But we entreat them to consider—Ought not such violations of charter, such perversions, such wastes, such artful contrivances, such inquisitional oppression, and torturing cruelty, to change the years of former joy into days of mourning ? The reputed guardians of the seminary have torn away its laurels, and decked it with cypress. Its interests are languishing ; its real glory obscured by meretricious show ; and, in the method, which they are pursuing, ere long not a vestige of its being will be found, but the name.

We do not say all of that Body, who gave their votes, and united in these measures, were governed by the same motives. Some, whose virtues are entitled to respect, might have been wrought upon by others, their minds loaded with prejudices, their fears excited by false representations, and their hopes awakened by a *new theory*. Thus, wholly unacquainted with the true state and circumstances of the Institution, they plunged into the abyss of schemes and projects of their electors and associates—thus have they followed close on their footsteps through every maze, moving as they moved, and voting as they voted, cautiously avoiding the least approach to any source of information, but the lessons of their guides—Thus, have the more honest members of that aristocratic *corps* been duped by their leaders :—and hence, after discussions in private, that wonderful appearance of unanimity and intuition in their deadly resolves, are without example, but in the *great hall*, in the melancholy days of France.

The evils produced by a body, like this, when independent and not *responsible*, are not confined to the Institution of its charge—they may extend to affect the wheels and movements of the *civil gov-*

erument, and the rights of its citizens. May not the members of such a corporation gradually enter into connexion with some certain class or description of men, who have an interest of their own separate from the common good? May not the former (a kind of standard or rallying point set up at the institution) add to their own weight and importance by favourable accommodations, and artful arrangements, in promoting the views and consequence of the latter? Why not, by such interchanges, and strengthening their mutual ties, gradually form themselves into an aristocratical order in the state? Then, whatever *creed* or *dogma* is made the watch-word, of whatever sect their livery, their empire of influence is organized and established, as firm, in effect, as the habits of Sparta or China. They will control law-makers, and the choice of Rulers, always those who are the key stone of the vault.—How was it otherwise that the universities of Paris and Oxford, before the day star of liberty and knowledge broke in upon Europe, extended their command of opinion and influence through France and England, but as they held rights, and authority, independent of those governments?—and how was it, the Romish hierarchy, before it was arrayed with sovereign political power, in the seventh and eighth centuries, turned the lot of princes, and of subjects, but as it possessed rights, and immunities, and command of belief, not amenable to the empire?

It is therefore, no unfair conclusion, that the dialect, strongly traced in the practice of the majority brought to our view, is dangerous. We will add, it is absurd. There is not a university in Europe, but what is responsible: Those in Great Britain are accountable for the application of their funds, for their laws, and use of their charter powers: and they may be brought by process before the high court of chancery. The people of the United States, with the blood of their ancestors, inherit their laws and usages; and have brought them into practice in cases, where no provision is made by their own *statutes*. By the revolution the whole sovereignty of the British government over the Colonies was transferred to them, assumed by each *State*, and lodged according to its Constitution, in organized bodies. The charter of Dartmouth College, given by the King, invests the Board of Trustees with power “to make and establish such ordinances, “orders, and laws, as may tend to the good and wholesome gov-“erment of the said College”—“and to the public benefit of “the same; not repugnant to the laws and statutes of *our realm* “of Great Britain, or of this our province of New-Hampshire.” In other words; they should not pervert the funds, nor contravene the principles of the charter, nor usurp ungranted power, nor substitute the advantage of a few for the general good, without being amenable to the “provincie of New-Hampshire.”

But, admitting their responsibility under the former British government, who now can call them to account? That Body, which is armed with all the power of the former sovereign—the *legislature of the state*, established and authorized by the Constitution to secure the rights of the citizens, to prevent oppression

in men, or *companies of men*, to establish and cherish, on equal and just principles, the means of knowledge, and, for this purpose, to visit and rectify fundamental abuses and disorders in corporate bodies--more especially, a Board entrusted with high powers for the education of youths, to make orders, and laws, and confer honours, in fine to model their social views and moral feelings. It is of the utmost consequence, that a Board, thus entrusted with the charge of forming the manners of those destined to have mighty influence on the political and moral order, whatever is most precious to the rights and liberty of the state, should be held *responsible*, their violations speedily repaired, and abuses reformed. This duty is assigned by God and the people, in the constitution, to the *legislature*. If in times past, there has appeared no occasion to erect any tribunal with competent authority to take cognizance of this kind of evil, the power is reserved in themselves to do it, or by their committee authorized in *juridical* capacity by them for the purpose.

It will be found (and the more the subject is examined, the more will this important truth appear) that disorders have, and are arising by an improper use of power, and improper proceedings, which will pollute the fountain and streams of education, and are ominous to the moral and political interests of society, and to the rights of humanity. A sufficient preventive of the disease the charter has not provided. It remains, then, for the sovereign power to prepare and *apply the remedy*; and the means, by some check, to unnerve an aristocratic spirit, should it ever, in future, bend to unwholesome devices. To this another weighty consideration may be annexed; that the immediate direction of the springs and wheels of the Institution should not be committed to strangers, who are exposed to inhale their conceptions of plans, and measures, from visionary, or interested informers. A large part at least of the board ought to be characters of pure and liberal minds, not living remote, acquainted with all its relations, and progressive movements.

Great and many are the blessings of Divine Providence, which descended, and rested on this establishment in a long train of events. Many the streams which have issued from it, to increase the enjoyments of religion and benefits of civilized life—its influences have drawn the man of nature to exchange the wandering chase for the abode of arts and the temple of God. While attempts are made to destroy its principles, to change its benevolent objects, to make it a machine to subserve the purpose of a few—While, thus, the interest of society and the public good is jeopardized, may those who have that charity which *seeketh not her own*; may the *fathers of the state* put forth their hands to protect it. But especially, let us, in humble confidence, look up to him who shook the mountain, and his enemies were dismayed: before whom the walls of a city fell, and the river was divided.

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